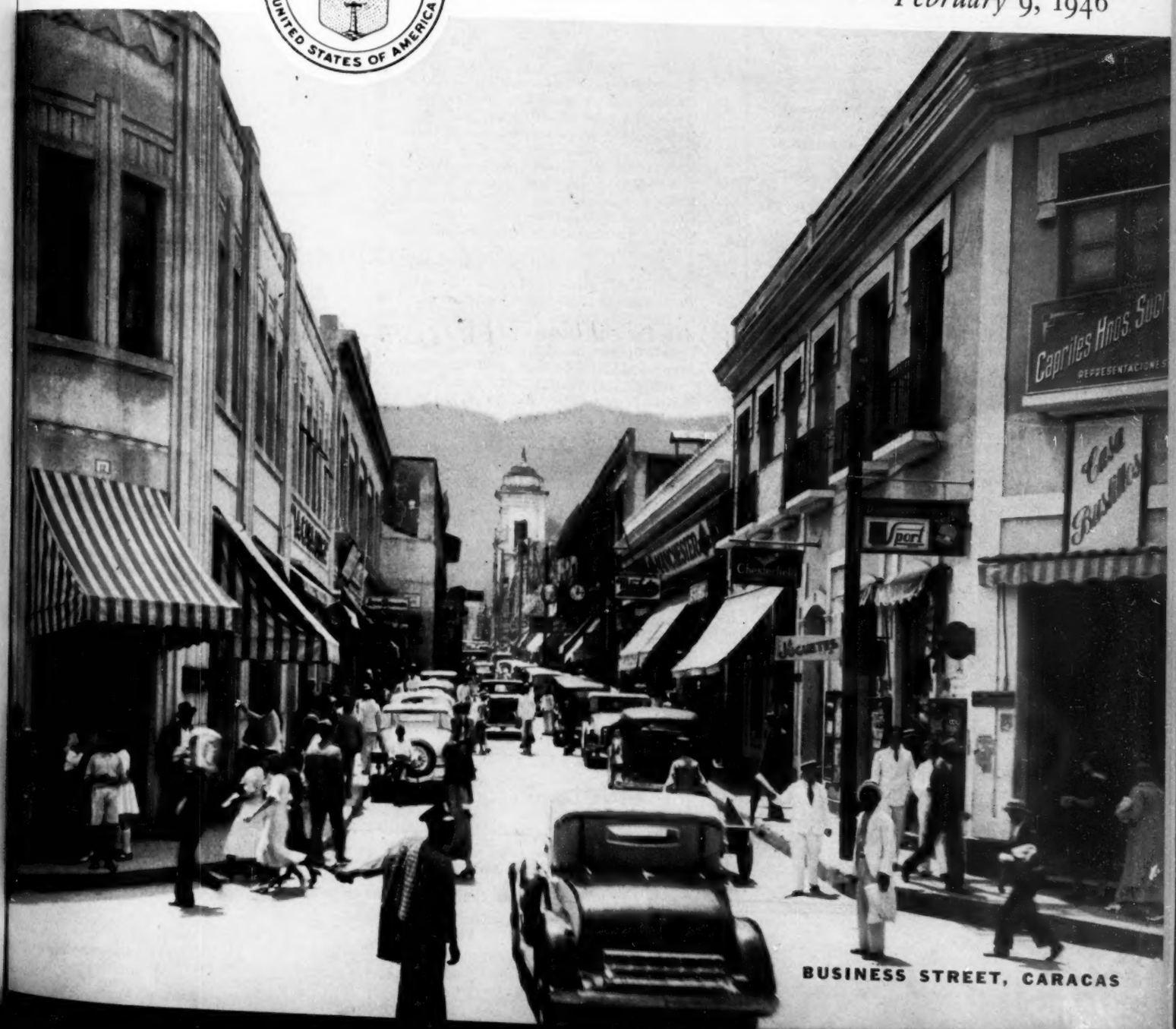
FEB 22 '46
PERIODICAL ROOM
GENERAL LIBRARY
UNIV. OF MICH

Foreign Commerce WEEKLY

Vol. XXII, *No.* 6

February 9, 1946



BUSINESS STREET, CARACAS

Foreign Commerce Weekly

(Statutory Functions "The Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce . . . to foster, promote, and develop the foreign and domestic commerce of the United States." [*Law creating the Bureau, Aug. 23, 1912* [37 Stat. 408].])

Issued by the UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, HENRY A. WALLACE, *Secretary*
BUREAU OF FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC COMMERCE, AMOS E. TAYLOR, *Director*

THIS WEEK

Major Trade-Policy Trends During 1945 3
Next Phase in the Urals; New Plans and Potentials 5
U. S. Trade With U. S. S. R., January–September 1945 8
Venezuela Pushing Many New Construction Plans 9
Demand for Canadian Canned Fish Mounts 11

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
FIELD SERVICE

Atlanta 3, Ga., 603 Rhodes Bldg.
Boston 9, Mass., 1800 Customhouse.
Buffalo 8, N. Y., 242 Federal Bldg.
Charleston 3, S. C., Chamber of Commerce Bldg.
Chicago 4, Ill., 357 U. S. Courthouse.
Cincinnati 2, Ohio, Chamber of Commerce.
Cleveland 14, Ohio, 753 Union Commerce Bldg., Euclid Ave. at East 9th St.
Dallas 2, Tex., Chamber of Commerce Bldg.
Denver 2, Colo., 566 Customhouse.
Detroit 26, Mich., 1028 New Federal Bldg.
Houston 14, Tex., 603 Federal Office Bldg.
Jacksonville 1, Fla., 425 Federal Bldg.
Kansas City 6, Mo., 724 Dwight Bldg.
Los Angeles 12, Calif., 1540 U. S. Post Office and Courthouse.
Memphis 3, Tenn., 229 Federal Bldg.
Minneapolis 1, Minn., 201 Federal Office Bldg.
New Orleans 12, La., 408 Maritime Bldg.
New York 6, N. Y., 61 Broadway, 5th Floor.
Philadelphia 2, Pa., 1510 Chestnut St.
Pittsburgh 19, Pa., 1013 New Federal Bldg.
Portland 4, Oreg., Room 313, 520 S. W. Morrison St.
Richmond 19, Va., Room 2, Mezzanine, 801 E. Broad St.
St. Louis 1, Mo., 107 New Federal Bldg.
San Francisco 11, Calif., 307 Customhouse.
Savannah, Ga., 513 Liberty National Bank and Trust Bldg., Bull and Broughtin Sts.
Seattle 4, Wash., 809 Federal Office Bldg.

News by COUNTRIES

Argentina 18
Burma 18
Chile 18
Costa Rica 18
Cuba 18
Czechoslovakia 18
Finland 19
France 19
French North Africa 20
Iceland 20
India 20
New Zealand 21
Panama 21
Paraguay 21
Sweden 21
Uruguay 21
Venezuela 21

News by COMMODITIES

Beverages 22
Chemicals 22
Coal and Fuel Gases 23
Construction 23
Electrical Machinery and Equipment 24
Feathers and Furs 24
Foodstuffs and Allied Products 24
Iron and Steel 28
Leather and Related Products 28
Lumber and Products 29
Machinery, Other Than Electrical 29
Medicinals and Crude Drugs 29
Metals and Minerals 29
Motion Pictures and Equipment 30
Naval Stores 30
Paints and Pigments 30
Paper and Related Products 30
Petroleum and Products 31
Scientific and Professional Equipment 31
Special Products 32
Textiles and Related Products 32
Tobacco and Related Products 33

REGULAR DEPARTMENTS

Late Airgrams 16
Contributors' Column 39
Export Control and Related Announcements 36
New World Trade Leads 12
Latin-American Exchange Rates 35
Oversea Surplus Disposal 14
Pertinent Comments on World Economy Today 19
New Books and Reports 39
Trade-Mark Applications 34
Export-Import Bank Activities 15

Annual Subscription: Domestic, $6.00; Foreign, $8.75; Single copy, 15 cents. Make remittances payable to the Superintendent of Documents and mail direct to that official, Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C.

Note—Contents of this publication are not copyrighted and may be reprinted freely. Mention of source will be appreciated.

The Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce is not responsible for material obtained from other than Government sources.

PUBLISHED WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE BUDGET (42 J. C. P.)

Major Trade-Policy Trends During 1945

By HENRY CHALMERS, *Consultant on Commercial Policy, Office of World Trade Policy, Department of Commerce*

BY THE END OF 1945 only limited progress had been made, except by the United States and a few foreign countries, toward demobilization of the wartime controls and restrictions upon foreign trade. Resumption of trade with the areas formerly under Axis control has thus far been slow and uneven. Nor had much progress been made toward harmonizing the diverse commercial programs of the individual countries on the basis of common principles, in a concerted effort to facilitate the general revival and expansion of international trading. However, the prospect for greater progress in this field during 1946 was considerably improved by a number of developments late in 1945. These included the conclusion of the Anglo-American economic negotiations; the proposal by the United States, with British support, for an international conference on trade and employment within the coming year; and the completion of the necessary ratifications for setting up the Bretton Woods monetary and financial organizations.

The termination of the war in 1945 put an end to the forced commercial seclusion of most of Europe and of the Far East, and to the arbitrary diversion of the production and trade of those regions to the purposes of Germany and Japan. It also made no longer necessary many of the wartime trade restrictions that had been resorted to by the United Nations in order to meet the overriding military demands upon the available supplies, funds, and shipping. Considering the drastic changes in the economic and financial position of so many countries wrought during the war, however, and the widely disorganized conditions left in its wake, a rapid or general return to prewar trade relations could hardly have been expected.

The United States, Canada, the Union of South Africa, and a few other countries located outside the zones of active conflict had, by the end of 1945, removed most of their various wartime restrictions upon foreign trade. Although usually continuing their price controls, these governments have gone far toward clearing the way for their nationals to resume the exportation and importation of most commodities under something like the prewar pattern, insofar as the conditions set by other countries permitted.

In a positive way, the substantial enlargement during the year of the loanable funds of the Export-Import Bank of the United States and the new export credit facilities of Canada made it possible for those two Governments to finance, on credit, the continued flow to their Allies of certain civilian goods which before the end of the war had been planned for shipment under the lend-lease or mutual-aid programs, and also the supplying to various of the war-ravaged countries of Europe of their unusually large import requirements for replenishment and reconstruction, beyond current ability to offset with their export goods or with cash. Sweden and Switzerland also facilitated the postwar restoration of international commerce through the extension of substantial official credits.

Most countries, however, have felt that the particular economic and financial position in which they found themselves did not allow them to restore equally unrestricted conditions for foreign trading, at least not until they could make many domestic readjustments in various fields and, in some cases, conclude financial arrangements with supplying countries. The changes in the measures for foreign-trade control actually made during 1945 varied considerably, therefore, in the different regions or groups of countries, in the light of their special circumstances and immediate objectives.

EDITOR'S NOTE

This is the first of a series of three articles, analyzing the principal developments and emerging trends of the past year in the field of commercial policy and the general reestablishment of international trade relations after the war.

The present article presents a general review of 1945, with brief consideration of certain prospects for 1946. The second will survey the salient developments of the past year in joint international trade controls, in the foreign trade arrangements of the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom and the other sterling areas, and of Latin America. The third is to deal with the developments and difficulties in the general resumption of foreign commerce by the countries of Continental Europe and the Far East.

A similar series of articles appeared in FOREIGN COMMERCE WEEKLY last year, in the issues of February 10, 17, and 24, 1945.

Latin America

With the passing of the joint emergency controls on imports which the Latin American countries had adopted to conform to the export controls of the United States, their principal wartime supplier, many of these governments have been replacing them with stronger local controls upon the volume and character of their country's imports. By the end of 1945, Mexico and all but two of the countries of South America were requiring import permits for each transaction in all or broad ranges of goods. Their principal concerns appear to be, to see that their foreign-exchange reserves and earnings are used primarily for the importation of essentials, especially productive equipment, and to shield certain war-developed local industries from severe foreign competition. However, both the newer import permit systems in Latin America and the older exchange controls were restrictively applied during 1945 to only a limited extent, and thus far appear to be a largely precautionary measures.

British Empire

Such relaxations of their wartime controls as most members of the British Empire have made during 1945—with the exception of Canada and South Africa, earlier noted—have been confined mainly to trade within the Empire, and with the few non-British members of the sterling area. Their inadequate holdings of nonsterling exchange, especially of dollars, has been the dominant consideration in their continuing—and sometimes even tightening—the existing restrictions upon trade with outside countries. The future trading possibilities of the entire sterling area with outside countries, notably with the United States,

were involved in the Anglo-American financial negotiations held at Washington in the fall, to be later discussed.

Former European Neutrals

On the European Continent, the four former neutral countries had managed to continue commercial dealings both with the German-dominated areas and, irregularly, also with the outside world. The termination of the war apparently required no radical changes in their official controls over the foreign-trade operations of their nationals. Sweden and Switzerland were exceptionally active during 1945 in reorienting and enlarging the range of their trade relations. Their governments assisted through the negotiation of agreements with various European countries, for each to grant permits freely for the exportation of specified products to the other, and often with provision for official credits to cover temporary excesses in shipments to those other countries above what goods could now be obtained from them in return.

Western Europe, Scandinavia

Among the former secluded areas of Europe, only the countries of western Europe and Scandinavia made any substantial progress during 1945 toward the general resumption of trade, either with other European or with oversea countries. The bulk of their importations during the past year, especially from the United States, has been arranged through purchasing missions or other centralized agencies of their governments, if not actually carried through by them. All these governments have stressed, however, that this arrangement is to be regarded as distinctly transitional.

Thus far, oversea trade even with liberated countries of western Europe and Scandinavia has been more or less a one-sided movement, of goods shipped to them. The revival of sizable exports from them in most of their accustomed lines has to await the restoration of their domestic production to a point where they have much to spare for shipment abroad, and often also the deflation of their trade-inhibiting price levels and exchange rates.

Some beginnings have been made by a few of these liberated countries toward authorizing direct foreign importations on the part of their commercial firms. That is still quite limited as to the products covered, and official permission is required for each transaction, which needs to be sufficiently essential to the general import program of the country to warrant allocation of funds out of their inadequate exchange holdings or foreign credits. Gradual improvement in their internal economies, readjustment of exchange rates, and the currently active negotiation of foreign loans or credits, together, should facilitate progress during the period ahead, both as to the total volume of the foreign trade of these countries and as to the degree of direct participation in it of private commercial firms.

In the matter of resumption of foreign trade and the methods of its control, Italy and Greece are in the same general position as western Europe.

Eastern Europe

The state of political as well as economic unsettlement of most of the countries of Eastern Europe—comprising, in general, all east of Germany—the disrupted state of their transport, and the meager foreign exchange at their disposal, render more remote their resumption of any substantial imports from western European or oversea countries, beyond the relief shipments supplied by UNRRA. The extensive experimentation with State control of domestic industries that is going on in almost all of these countries, the close reorientation of the economies of several of them with that of the Soviet Union and, in the case of the former German satellites, the heavy deliveries to the invaded eastern areas called for under the reparations account, operate further to limit their early resumption of sizable trade with outside countries. There has as yet been little indication from most of the governments of eastern Europe as to how much scope they contemplate for private trading.[1]

Far East

In many of the formerly secluded areas of the Far East, the process of liberation from enemy control was going on through most of 1945. The present prospect is that governmental agencies or officially designated commercial organizations will handle the external trade of many of these areas during the initial period of its resumption, with private transactions to be gradually restored, under governmental license. The greatest progress toward the restoration of normal trading has been made in the case of the Philippines. The recent lifting of centralized wartime controls by China, over most imports and some exports, is expected to facilitate trade resumption there, as soon as physical and financial limitations allow.

Improved Prospects for 1946

Looking ahead, the prospect for greater progress during 1946 toward more normal foreign-trade relations and policies, and toward more concerted action on the part of the nations in their commercial programs, was consderably brightened by a series of developments during the closing months of 1945.

Monetary Fund and International Bank

The early setting up of the International Monetary Fund and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development was assured late in December, with their ratification by the great majority of the countries which had participated in the Bretton Woods Conference of the preceding year. Essentially, the Bretton Woods agreements make provision for the orderly adjustment of the exchange values of the various national currencies, for the tiding over of particular countries experiencing temporary exchange difficulties, and for long-term loans, under international auspices, for the reconstruction and productive development of the various member countries requiring them. Much is expected from this first venture in the broad economic collaboration of the nations toward the revival of their commercial and financial relations on a stable and liberal basis.

These two financial institutions are expected to facilitate the transition from war to peace in international trade and finance in a number of ways. The operations of the International Monetary Fund are designed to minimize a repetition of the sudden and arbitrary exchange depreciations by countries acting alone, which made many long-term international transactions hazardous for a long period after the last war. Its program is calculated to promote substantial stability in the monetary relations of nations, combined with such flexibility as may be necessary to effect the adjustments called for in many countries after so disruptive a war. The provision for financial accommodation to countries experiencing temporary exchange shortages for current transactions is intended to make it easier for countries maintaining restrictive exchange controls to relax them, and ultimately to eliminate them, and to make it less necessary for countries having difficulty in their balance of payments to resort to measures which would reduce or divert international trade.

In addition to such loan or credit arrangements as may be worked out between individual countries, the International Bank is designed to assist in the reconstruction and development of the member countries through long-term financing of productive projects. Because of the international guaranty it can offer, the Bank is expected to stimulate the revived flow of private capital into foreign loans and investments, and to supplement that with direct loans out of its own governmentally subscribed funds or others available to it. It aims to promote the long-range balanced growth of world commerce by encouraging international investment in the productive resources and facilities of the less-developed countries.

Anglo-American Credit Agreement and Its Trade Implications

More limited in the scope of the participants, but promising to make possible the reopening of trade on a freer and more competitive basis with a considerable range of countries, were the Anglo-American discussions that were concluded in Washington early in December. Highly significant understandings in the field of commercial policy accompanied the two financial arrangements: definitive settlement of all lend-lease obligations and war claims between the two countries, and the extension by the

(Continued on p. 35)

[1] In their present stage of military occupation and basic reorganization by the Allies, both Germany and Japan are as yet outside the scope of possible normal trade relations or policies.

Soviet Russia has announced no changes during 1945 in its long-standing monopoly of foreign trade, and is not here specifically dealt with.

Next Phase in the Urals: New Plans and Potentials

{Soviets Begin Vigorous Utilization of Rich Resources and Capabilities Now Revealed in Region That Is Admirably Strategic for Economic Drive}

By L. M. Herman, *U. S. S. R. Section, Office of World Trade Promotion, Department of Commerce*

IN THE SCHEME of Russia's current (fourth) Five-Year Plan the industries of the undamaged economic regions of the country, and chief among them the Ural Mountain area, are expected to raise their productive capacity considerably above the prewar level while the bulk of the nation's resources are devoted to the task of restoring as quickly as possible the wrecked industries and transportation facilities of the invaded war-ravaged territories.

As indicated by current discussion in the Soviet press, the planning authorities of the U. S. S. R. are approaching the problem of expanding the industrial capacity of the interior regions by way of a more intensive study of available natural resources. In connection with the Urals in particular, the Soviet Union's pragmatic Academy of Sciences has recently pointed up the specific direction of industrial expansion by convening a special conference in November 1945 at the city of Molotov (formerly Perm) to study the utilization of the natural resources of the Molotov Province. Most of the press comments generated by this conference stress the fact that further progress in the economy of the Urals is closely tied up with the rational exploitation of the rich and varied resources of the Molotov Province.

Great Potentialities

The Molotov Province encompasses the less-known and more thinly populated western slope of the Ural Mountains. It is a region of extensive forest land, many swift-flowing rivers, and rich mineral resources, many of them still untapped, including the only high-grade coal and petroleum in the Urals. According to a study of this area recently published at Molotov, the western slope of the Ural Mountain range is now considered by geologists to possess greater economic potentialities than the more systematically exploited eastern slope.[1]

The western Urals are perhaps best known for containing the most important deposits of potash, chromium, and magnesium in the Soviet Union. As a result of a recent survey, conducted primarily with an eye toward widening the base of the Ural economy specifically, the western Urals have been found to contain 65 percent of the water power, 60 percent of the coal, more than one-half the forest, and most of the oil resources of the entire Ural area.

Of most immediate interest to the Ural economy as a whole are Molotov's extensive water and coal resources. The lack of cheap power, of direct water transportation, and of high-grade coal in the eastern Urals has in the past tended to raise the unit cost of everything produced in the Urals. During the war especially, local power facilities failed to keep pace with industrial development. A great deal of valuable time and manpower, therefore, had to be diverted to the construction of additional boiler and turbine capacity at such heavily industrialized centers as Krasnogorsk, Sverdlovsk, Chelyabinsk, and Alapayevsk. By the end of 1944 the power capacity of the Ural stations was raised to three times the prewar level. At this point, however, local planning authorities report that the mere expansion and reconstruction of existing electric-power facilities will no longer satisfy the needs of heavy industry in the Urals in the future.

Hydroelectric Picture

With Molotov in the picture, the Ural hydroelectric planning organization proposes to build 65 hydroelectric stations on 24 Ural rivers for a total capacity of 2,500,000 kw. and an average annual electric output of 9,000,000,000 kw.-hr. Fifty-one of these stations, with an aggregate capacity of 2,400,000 kw., or 96 percent of the total, will be built in Molotov Province. The rivers of the western Urals are considered to be especially suitable for power generation because of favorable geological conditions, high precipitation, narrow valleys, and steep river gradients.

The Kama River, which drains the entire northwestern slope of the Urals, figures prominently in the current program of hydroelectric construction. Plans have already been completed for the construction of two large hydroelectric stations on the Kama, one at Molotov and one further north at Solikamsk. In their joint capacity these two stations are expected to equal the combined power of all electric stations now operating in the Urals.

Of the two, the Molotov project is scheduled to go into construction first. The blueprints for this station are reported as being in a more advanced stage, and a good deal of preliminary work has already been completed. The capacity of the Molotov station is to be somewhere between that of our Niagara Falls station and the Russians' Dnieper dam. Energy generated at the Molotov station is expected to contribute substantially to the power supply of the heavily industrialized nearby Sverdlovsk Province. When completed, this hydroelectric project will facilitate navigation of the Upper Kama River, open up the Chusovaya River as far as the metallurgical center of Chusovoi, and thus connect the Urals with the cities of the middle Volga where many industrial plants important to the economy of the Urals were either erected or located during the war.

Part of Grandiose Plan

In point of time, the construction of the Molotov station is scheduled to be completed some time during the fourth Five-Year Plan (1946–50), and the Solikamsk project, estimated to require twice as much time and expenditure, will be launched after Molotov is completed and will probably coincide with the fifth Five-Year Plan. Although the Solikamsk project will be located in what is now a thinly populated region, the Ural planning authorities are hopeful that it will not only open the mineral-rich northwestern part of the Province to exploitation but also will supply adequate power to such expanding industrial centers as Berezniki (chemicals), Kizel (coal), Gubakha (coke-chemical), and Chusovoi and Lysva (metallurgy). In its more distant phase, the Solikamsk project is envisioned as a major component of the grandiose Kama-Vychegda-Pechora coordinated waterway and power development which will some day link the Volga River system, through the Pechora and Northern Dvina Rivers,

[1] V. Tiunov and B. Nazarovski, *Zapadny Ural*, Molotov, 1945.

with Naryan-Mar and Archangel in the Arctic.

At least two locations in the Molotov Province, the Kungur district in the south and the Kolva River basin in the extreme north, are known to contain rich deposits of iron, manganese, copper, chromium, bauxite, gold, and platinum which cannot at present be adequately exploited because of a lack of electric power.

Before the two big stations of Molotov and Solikamsk can get under way, however, a number of medium-sized hydroelectric stations are being rushed through construction in order to relieve the power shortage in the newly industrialized areas. Three such stations now approaching completion at Ponysh, Shirokovo, and Vilukhino will be followed by four similar stations at Nizhne-Shirokovo, Gromovo, Vashkur, and Kumysh, which will use the same men, machinery, and materials. All these stations will be located along the railroad and high-tension transmission lines.

Coal-Bearing Areas

Besides its vast water-power resources, the Molotov Province contains coal-bearing areas of great significance to the economy of the Urals. The geological coal reserves of this region have been recently estimated at several billion tons, as compared with an estimate of 260,000,000 made by a scientific expedition 15 years ago. The coal-bearing strata of the western slope of the Urals extend in a belt from the Pechora River basin to Sverdlovsk. This belt measures almost 800 kilometers in length and varies in width from 3 to 20 kilometers.

In the Kizel Basin, an area of approximately 2,000 square kilometers, the western Urals have the richest coal field and the only coking coal in the Urals. The deposit consists of seams lying 5 to 25 meters apart, of which four to six seams are exploitable. Because of a high sulfur and ash content, however, Kizel coal has to be enriched for coking. The blast furnaces of the Novo-Tagil iron and steel plant are at present using a mixture of Kizel and Kuznetsk coal. Kizel coal has been found to be especially suitable for nonferrous-metal production, and from the standpoint of supply it has been estimated that the entire nonferrous metallurgy of the Urals can operate on Kizel coke.

In accordance with a recommendation of the Academy of Sciences, Kizel coal will no longer be used for fuel in the future, as it was under the pressure of wartime requirements, but only for coking and as a chemical raw material. Laboratory tests have demonstrated that the coking byproducts of Kizel coal are nearly twice the amount yielded by Kuznetsk coal. Kizel coal, for example, yields 5.3 percent of the tar per ton of dry coal as compared with 2.5 for Kuznetsk and 2.3 for Donets coal. The mines, which are among the most completely mechanized in the Soviet Union, are at present being steadily expanded in response to the growing demands of Ural industry for coke, semicoke, synthetic ammonia, aniline dyes, plastics, liquid fuel, and gas. Current production is reported at several million tons annually, with some of the principal mines yielding 1,000,000 tons each.

Rich Oil Fields

Within the last 15 years the Molotov Province has also become an important factor in Soviet oil production. Oil was discovered by accident at Verkhne-Chusovskie Gorodki, along one of the Kama tributaries, in 1929, while prospecting for potash. Five years later, again by chance, oil was struck in the vicinity of Krasnokamsk, now the center of the oil industry in the Urals, in the course of digging an artesian well. These two discoveries in Molotov Province provided the impetus for systematic oil prospecting throughout the Ural-Volga region which resulted in the opening of a vast

oil-bearing area known as the "Second Baku." This triangular area, extending from Krasnokamsk in the north to Syzran in the west, and Tuimazy in the east, yielded about 2,000,000 metric tons of petroleum in 1940 (out of a total Soviet output of nearly 30,000,000 tons) and probably 3,000,000 tons in 1945. The number of producing wells along the Kama alone is reported to have nearly doubled within the last 5-year period.

There is more oil in the Urals, according to Soviet sources, than in either Iran or Iraq. The richest oil fields lie along the Kama River, some of them extending 80 kilometers in length and 15 kilometers in width. Present estimates of Molotov's oil deposits place them at hundreds of millions of tons, sufficient to supply all Ural industries for the next 30 years.

In its chemical and physical properties the oil of the western Urals is rated the best in the U. S. S. R.: it contains nearly 45 percent of light fractions (gasoline, ligroine, and kerosene), is low in sulfur content, and does not freeze at −40° C. Within recent years the Molotov Province has built up its own refining industry, producing all the basic oil products, 70 percent of which are consumed outside of the Province, chiefly in the Sverdlovsk and Kirov Provinces and in western Siberia.

The crude oil of Chusovskie Gorodki contains almost twice the amount of aromatic hydrocarbon found in the richest Rumanian oil, ranking first in the world in this respect, according to Soviet petroleum engineers. The Kama oil wells yield water rich in hydrogen sulfide, iodine, bromide, and radium, with the iodine content of approximately 10 to 20 milligrams and bromide 650 to 850 milligrams per liter. The amount of bromide produced from this source is sufficient to cover all chemical, pharmaceutical, and photographic requirements of the U. S. S. R. and promises to supply considerable quantities for export.

For Chemical Industries

As a source of raw materials for the chemical industry, the western Ural area is unique in the U. S. S. R. The combination of tremendous natural resources and ample facilities for fabrication makes it possible to concentrate a considerable amount of chemical production here. No other single Province in the Soviet Union contains anything like the variety of chemical materials found in Molotov: potash, chromites, chemically rich coal, petroleum, iodine, radioactive and hydrosulfide waters, peat, salt springs, phosphorites, pyrites, high-grade limestone, gypsum, and almost unlimited water resources. For example, the chromium deposits of the Molotov Province are among the most valuable in the world. The well-known potash deposits near Solikamsk exceed by about five times all known potash deposits outside of Russia. The potash plant located in this city is described as the largest plant of its kind in the world. As a producer of all three types of basic mineral fertilizer materials, the Molotov oblast, with its largest superphosphate plant in the country and substantial production of nitrogen, holds first place in the U. S. S. R.

One of the outstanding industrial enterprises of the western Urals, the Berezniki chemical combine, is favorably situated from the standpoint of meeting the nation's expanding requirements for chemicals. It is located along a major waterway and water-power source, namely the Kama River, and draws its raw materials from the Kizel coal mines, the Upper Kama phosphorites, as well as from readily available local pyrites, local deposits of potash, and limestone, and local salt springs.

With the aid of several dozen evacuated plants from the western zones and under the direct stimulus of wartime needs, the local chemical industry has made considerable progress in the direction of utilizing wastes and byproducts in the manufacture of important defense chemicals. With its 100 chemical plants, many of them newly built during the war, the Molotov Province is now the principal supplier of chemicals for many parts of the U. S. S. R., and accounts for about 85 percent of chemical production in the Urals. Yet, the possibilities for further expansion are regarded by local planning authorities as almost unlimited. Chemical fertilizer, for example, can soon be produced in sufficient quantities to provide an exportable surplus. Conditions are likewise favorable for a greatly increased output of ammonia, soda, and sodium products, as well as many products of organic chemistry, such as alcohol, solvents, dyes, formalin, urotropin, naphthalene, carbolic acid, and many (approximately 300) drugs and reagents from extensive local wood, oil, and coal resources. Molotov's wood chemical industry, although favorably situated with regard to raw material, is still largely a cottage industry marked by primitive methods and small-scale output.

Vast Timber Resources

The timber zones of the western Urals are most abundant and varied along the many tributaries of the Kama, which makes them accessible alike to the Volga cities, now chiefly Stalingrad, and Ural industry centers. Altogether, approximately 365 rivers within the boundaries of the Molotov Province are suitable for transportation in some form. Total timber resources of the Province, which compare favorably with those of any European country, are estimated at 484,750 M board feet, with an annual accretion of 5,950 M board feet. Although about 10,500 M board feet may be safely felled each year, the present annual cut amounts to only about one-third of that amount.

Pulp and Paper Output

Based on the timber of the Kama and Vishera River basins, the Molotov Province operates the largest pulp and paper industry in the U. S. S. R. About 90 percent of the pulp and paper produced in the Urals came from the Molotov industry. The latter also ranks first in the U. S. S. R. in the production of high-grade sulfite pulp and fine paper. Before the war the Kama paper works produced nearly one-half of the print paper manufactured in the U. S. S. R. The most advanced paper mill of the area is the Solikamsk plant which in recent years has incorporated many methods used in American paper technology.

The Vishera paper mill, almost completely equipped with imported machinery, manufactures high-grade paper from 100-percent bleached pulp. Special and technical types of paper are produced at the Krasnokamsk Goznak (bank-note) plant, the largest establishment of the kind in the U. S. S. R. With its present equipment and with the aid of evacuated and newly built paper and pulp plants, the industry can easily expand its output by between 30 and 60 percent.

Some Inadequacies Loom

The lumber industry of the western Urals, as it is constituted at present, is ill equipped to satisfy the expanded industrial requirements of any great portion of the Ural area. There are approximately 200 saw frames in the Province, most of which belong to individual enterprises and are inconveniently located. The principal sawmills are located at Molotov, Lyamin, Kungur, and on the Yaiva River.

Four new lumber mills, at suitable locations along the rivers and railroad, must be built in the immediate future, especially if this Province is to resume the manufacturing of standard prefabricated cottages, begun just before World War II, on a scale commensurate with the current needs of the lumber-deficient Ural and Volga regions.

Logging operations in the western Urals, maintained by five federally controlled timber trusts, are still largely dependent upon labor and draft power recruited from local collective farms.

Iron and Steel Outlook

The iron-ore resources of Molotov Province consist of four major deposit groups: the Vishera, Chusovaya, Kizel, and Komi-Permian. The largest and most important of these deposits is located along the middle and upper course of the Vishera River and its tributaries. Preliminary surveys of this area place the total reserves of the Vishera deposits at many millions of tons of high-grade iron ore free of sulfur and phosphorus but containing such valuable admixtures as vanadium and titanium. The most promising single deposit of this group is the Kutim iron glance deposit with an iron content of 67–69 percent, which compares favorably with the well-known iron glance deposits of Elba Island.

The combination of high-grade ore and extensive coniferous timber resources found in the western Urals makes this area the future center of an industry specializing in naturally alloyed pig iron. At present, however, the Molotov Province is apparently still obtaining ore from other parts of the Urals, although its own untapped deposits are all located within easy reach of the existing metal-

(Continued on p. 36)

U.S. Trade With U.S.S.R. January-September 1945

Prepared in U. S. S. R. Section, Office of World Trade Promotion, Department of Commerce

TOTAL DOMESTIC United States exports to the Soviet Union for the first 9 months of 1945 amounted to $1,722,095,000, reexports were $3,217,000, while general imports were valued at $49,040,000.

With the end of the war and discontinuance of lend-lease shipments, export totals from the United States to the U. S. S. R. soon will contract sharply. As a result of the pipe-line lag in filling lend-lease orders, however, the 9 months' export figures compared with those of the 6-month period indicated merely the beginning of slackening exports.

Among the few significant changes in quantities of United States goods exported to the U. S. S. R., since the middle of 1945, the Soviet Union has ceased to receive from the United States large shipments of iron and steel semimanufactures. The 9 months of 1945 show, however, almost double the 6-month figure for Soviet imports of U. S. iron and steel advanced manufactures, chiefly tools. While these figures reflect the change-over from war production to industrial reconstruction and expansion, it should be noted that large Soviet imports of food products are being maintained.

United States imports from the Soviet Union remain fairly constant in volume. Undressed furs continue to account for more than half of the total value of these imports. Metals still hold second place in value of imports. Accounting for nearly one-fourth of all our imports from the U. S. S. R., they include manganese, chrome, platinum, and palladium—all essential to the U. S. steel industry.

Most of the reexports are of South American products, reexported from the United States to the Soviet Union in American bottoms.

Trade of United States With U.S.S.R., January–September 1945, by Principal Commodities

Item	Quantities	Thousand dollars
Domestic exports, total		1,722,095
Meat products	1,000 pounds	391,382	128,353
Hams and shoulders, cured	do	1,573	430
Bacon	do	19,990	3,366
Pork, pickled	do	81,020	12,392
Meats, canned	do	288,322	112,035
Pork, canned	do	44,701	16,757
Sausage, etc., canned	do	81,212	26,132
Tushonka	do	161,191	68,611
Animal oils and fats, edible	do	114,103	18,371
Lard	do	106,988	17,066
Oleomargarine	do	7,113	1,305
Dairy products			31,070
Dried whole milk	1,000 pounds	16,858	6,475
Dried skim milk	do	21,294	3,573
Butter	do	16,382	8,082
Butter oil	do	4,227	2,661
Butter spreads	do	2,884	1,508
Cheese	do	16,328	5,606
Egg products, dried	do	60,413	81,737
Leather			6,353
Upper leather			1,658
Sole leather	1,000 pounds	8,573	4,393
Boot and shoe cut stock			265
Leather manufactures			15,689
Boots and shoes, men's	1,000 pairs	3,138	14,145
Wearing apparel			1,425
Grains and preparations			11,499
Barley	1,000 bushels	179	375
Oatmeal, groats, and rolled oats	1,000 pounds	1,990	108
Milled rice, including brown	do	14,457	1,137
Wheat flour, wholly of U. S. wheat	do	2,051	8,276
Vegetables and preparations			23,964
Beans, dried, ripe	1,000 pounds	66,945	5,793
Seed beans	do	6,113	1,056
Seed peas	do	400	34
Tomato paste and puree, canned	do	6,245	896
Dehydrated vegetables	do	17,846	12,388
Dehydrated soup	do	5,511	2,308
Soya flour, edible	do	21,655	1,300
Peanuts, shelled	do	5,317	933
Sunflowerseed oil, edible	do	13,852	2,257
Vegetable oils and fats, edible	do	37,717	6,467
Cottonseed oil, refined	do	4,486	724
Soybean oil	do	11,366	2,154
Cooking fats, except lard	do	3,335	655
Vegetable stearin	do	2,846	372
Sugar, refined	do	120,177	8,583
Rubber and manufactures			32,624
Rubber—			
Buna-S	1,000 pounds	17,968	6,462
Neoprene	do	2,097	808
Truck and bus casings	number	625,775	16,138
Automobile inner tubes	do	648,669	1,860
Casings and tubes, other	do	68,845	513
Rubber belts and belting	1,000 pounds	6,173	3,360
Rubber hose, other than garden	do	2,552	1,162
Rubber footwear	1,000 pairs	31	113
Rubber soles	dozen pairs	326,023	790
Rubber gloves and mittens	do	47,986	285
Domestic exports—Continued.			
Rubber and manufactures—Continued.			
Hard rubber			170
Automobile tires, casings	number	676,780	16,142
Water bottles and fountain syringes	do	26,163	9
Vegetable oils, inedible	1,000 pounds	4,595	848
Linseed oil	do	3,832	638
Seeds, except oilseeds	do	8,000	5,442
Carrot seed	do	972	1,024
Beet seed, except sugar-beet seed	do	845	563
Onion seed	do	1,071	2,663
Cotton manufactures			13,193
Cotton thread	1,000 pounds	142	279
Cotton cloth, duck, and tire fabric	1,000 square yards	11,002	6,387
Wearing apparel			400
House furnishings			390
Bed sheets and pillow cases	dozen	20,176	154
Canvas articles			4,740
Cordage, except of cotton or jute	1,000 pounds	5,424	859
Wool manufactures			44,080
Wool cloth and dress goods	1,000 yards	11,046	39,916
Wool blankets	number	509,719	4,009
Wool overcoats, suits and pants	do	7,884	116
Wood manufactures			151
Paper and related products			2,080
Grease-proof and water-proof paper	1,000 pounds	2,582	383
Writing paper	do	5,278	939
Cigarette paper	do	191	80
Tissue and crepe paper	do	234	164
Vulcanized fiber sheets	do	1,088	279
Petroleum and products			39,381
Anti-knock compounds	1,000 gallons	54,114	12,675
Aviation motor fuels	barrels	2,274,751	15,853
Other motor fuels	do	1,013,045	3,201
Gas oil and distillate fuel oil	do	1,040,534	3,156
Lubricating oils	do	268,188	6,837
Red and pale	do	14,013	215
Aviation	do	179,840	2,374
Lubricating greases	1,000 pounds	1,856	110
Fire brick			66
Abrasives			5,249
Artificial abrasives, crude	1,000 pounds	10,755	1,087
Wheels of artifical abrasives	do	11,732	4,120
Carbon or graphite products			1,566
Electrodes for furnace or electrolytic work	1,000 pounds	8,494	1,193
Iron and steel semimanufactures			32,781
Steel ingots, blooms, billets, etc	long tons	14,054	2,797
Iron and steel bars and rods	1,000 pounds	142,005	16,770
Iron and steel plates, sheets, skelp	do	129,071	5,486
Strip, hoop, band, scroll iron	do	34,451	3,421
Tinplate and tagger's tin	do	68,019	3,800
Steel-mill manufactures			57,144
Plates, fabricated, punched or shaped	1,000 pounds	190,707	12,346
Railway track material			13,426
Tubular products and fittings	1,000 pounds	230,983	16,880
Wire and manufactures	do	80,068	8,974
Iron and steel wire, uncoated	do	9,975	936
Barbed wire	do	10,419	1,260
Rope and cable not insulated	do	16,289	3,755
Nails and bolts, except railroad	do	16,030	966

(Continued on p. 40)

Venezuela Pushing Many New Construction Plans

THERE SEEMS GOOD REASON to anticipate that the high level of activity which has characterized Venezuelan construction in recent years will continue during 1946 and, quite possibly, for several years thereafter. That is to say, it seems probable that the same happy circumstance of a substantial volume of private building being carried on during a period of marked activity in public-works construction will continue.

It does not necessarily follow that the volume or character of either private or public construction may not change substantially during this period. In fact, it seems likely that the volume of private construction may increase as imported building materials, in particular, become easier to obtain. And, similarly, there seems no reason at present to anticipate any material reduction in public construction, although it is possible that there may be changes in the character and location of the work undertaken.

About two-thirds of the public construction under way by the National Government is performed by private contractors. Public works performed by

Prepared in the Commodities Branch, Office of World Trade Promotion, Department of Commerce

State governments and municipios (counties) have a close relationship to national revenue, inasmuch as 20 percent of such funds are allotted to States, which in turn distribute to their own geographic subdivisions, according to population. Both municipal and State public construction is under the direction of the Ministry of Public Works.

Notable Progress

The marked construction activity of recent years is reflected in the changing aspect of many Venezuelan cities which find themselves midway in the process of changing from eighteenth- and nineteenth-century Spanish-American towns to modern urban centers. This is particularly true of Caracas where numerous office and apartment buildings, theaters, and residential developments have been undertaken in the past several years, with more projected. Theater construction in Venezuela has been especially active during this period, with 23 buildings reported under construction in 1944 against 14 in 1943.

Despite the notable progress already made in the public-works field, it is reported that there are many opportunities for further development. Particularly urgent is the need of improved waterworks and sewage-disposal facilities Other fields where it has been indicated further projects may shortly be undertaken include the provision of modern facilities for processing and storing agricultural products; the construction of public utilities; the provision of modern housing; besides the development of existing, and the creation of additional, port facilities.

Public-Works Programs

The present Venezuelan Government, beyond indicating that it anticipates going on with a general—even extensive—public-works program, has not announced any list of specific projects to be undertaken. In this connection it will be recalled that a National Public-Works Program was initiated in 1941 and planned to run for 5 years. Among the projects included in this program were roads, airports, schools, a "University City" to be built in Caracas, and numerous water-supply systems. By the end of 1944, however, despite considerable progress, it was estimated that the program initially envisaged was 50 percent behind schedule.

The original 1941–46 public-works program has been supplemented by an additional authorized expenditure of 81,591,050 bolivares, under Executive Decree of July 5, 1944. Of the total, it was planned to spend 35,902,860 bolivares during the fiscal year 1944–45, 30,668,190 bolivares during the fiscal year 1945–46, leaving a balance of approximately 15,000,000 bolivares to be carried over to subsequent years. Estimates made in February 1945 indicated that the amount appropriated for the 1944–45 fiscal year had reached 144,000,000 bolivares.

National public-works construction, excluding highways and railways, was valued at 19,684,000 bolivares during 1943, compared with 23,263,000 bolivares during 1942, and 44,854,000 bolivares during 1939, according to an annual report of the Ministry of Public Works for 1944, and the Venezuelan Statistical An-

Courtesy Pan American Union

Venezuela, aiming to attract more visitors, plans to build a number of fine new hotels. The hotel of which the terrace is here shown is at Macuto, on the Caribbean.

680354—46——2

nual for 1942. The 1943 expenditure was distributed approximately as follows: Waterways and sewers, 6,784,000 bolivares; buildings, 5,294,000 bolivares; airdromes, 2,061,000 bolivares; and the amounts spent for bridges, port works, irrigation works, and defenses ranged from 1,000,000 to 2,000,000 bolivares each.

The following data indicate the status of the program as of August 1944, including projects then under construction or those for which financial provision had been made. Highways and railways are not included in the list:

	Bolivares
Department of Means of Communication:	
Bridges	6,750,000
Ports (marine)	12,825,000
Airports	13,244,000
Department of Buildings and Industrial Installations	107,437,000
Department of Irrigation and Mapping	9,029,000
National Institute of Sanitary Works	48,305,000
University City at Caracas	24,000,000
Total	221,590,000

Other public-works projects, for which contracts have been awarded, include a 4,000,000 breakwater and pier at Carupano. Construction was expected to start in November. Construction and operation of an airport in the valley of Caracas was expected to meet with the approval of the Venezuelan Congress, according to an August report. Plans called for a 20-year contract between the Federal Executive and a group of private investors for the carrying-out of the enterprise, completion of which was set for within a year.

The largest harbor improvement project envisaged by the Ministry of Public Works is the installation of port facilities at La Guaira at an estimated cost of 28,475,712 bolivares. This project, as well as several others, has been deferred until building materials become available.

Courtesy Pan American Union

Part of the Caracas-LaGuaira Highway in Venezuela. Construction is planned to effect betterments on this famous road.

Other Organizations Active

Public-works construction is, generally, under the direction of the Ministry of Public Works. In addition, however, there are several essentially autonomous quasi-governmental organizations which engage in work in this field. One such is The National Institute of Sanitary Works which, as its name indicated, was established to promote waterwork projects and the construction, maintenance, and operation of a sewerage system.

In 1942, the National Institute of Sanitary Works commissioned a United States firm of consulting engineers to make a survey and draw plans for a safe and adequate water supply for Caracas. Their recommendations were accepted by the Institute, after which detailed plans and specifications were drawn up and bids solicited. In March 1945, it was announced that the award had gone to two United States firms which had submitted a joint bid. The cost of the project, including contractors' fee, is estimated at between 19,000,000 and 22,000,000 bolivares, and it is scheduled for completion by the end of 1946.

The Institute also has been active in other urban centers of Venezuela, having awarded a contract to another United States firm for the construction of a water-supply system for La Guaira (the port of Caracas) and Maiquetia, according to an August report. Plans were made to start the project by October 1, and the work is to be completed 1 year from time of starting. Cost of the aqueduct is estimated at 5,639,690 bolivares.

"University City" Institute is another essentially autonomous quasi-governmental organization operating in the field of public works. It was created to carry out the plan for the erection of a National University in Caracas, an ambitious program calling, tentatively, at least, for the expenditure of 70,000,000 bolivares. It has been reported that, as part of this program, contracts have been awarded United States firms for the construction of a hospital, a medical

(Continued on p. 37)

Courtesy Pan American Union

Military clinic at Maracay—example of the architectural distinction that characterizes many Venezuelan public buildings.

Demand for Canadian Canned Fish MOUNTS

Based on Article in Commercial Intelligence Journal, Ottawa

CANNED FISH has been a highly important form of food during the war years, both as a military supply and as a supplement to the rationed civilian diet, because it is relatively easy to transport and store. The demand for Canadian canned fish has increased in the months since the war ended, for three reasons: (1) military requirements, while reduced, are still substantial and it will be some time before demobilization is complete; (2) British civilian needs are at least as great as in wartime and are expected to remain so for a considerable period; and (3) requirements for relief feeding in Europe and elsewhere are very large, and desperately urgent, especially during the present winter.

Although additional sources are coming into production, the supply falls far short of the claims being made upon it.

Allocations

The canned-fish program has been designed to distribute available supplies as equitably as possible among all claimants. The program places under allocation control the total production of Canada and the United States and the whole exportable surplus of Norway, the Iberian peninsula, South America, and several other areas. Allocations cover all kinds of canned fish produced or available for distribution during the 12-month period from July 1, 1945, to June 30, 1946.

It is expected that Canadian production during this period will be about 161,400,000 pounds—28.4 on the east coast and 133.0 on the west coast. On this basis, the following allocations have been recommended by the Combined Food Board and approved by the Canadian Government:

	Million pounds
Civilian consumption in Canada	27.5
Canadian "Services"	2.0
British Ministry of Food	84.5
Relief feeding	40.4
Exports to the United States	4.0
Export elsewhere	3.0

It has been necessary to revise the break-down of the Canadian canned-fish supply as originally established at the beginning of the allocation year because of uncertainty as to the size and urgency of certain requirements. Although the above figures are still subject to actual production, it is not anticipated that any significant changes will have to be made during the balance of the allocation year.

The break-down and management of the Canadian civilian allocation is the responsibility of the Wartime Prices and Trade Board. Distributors are advised by the Canned Fish Allocation Officer of the varieties which may be sold to the domestic market. Specific directions as to quotas, purchasers, and the like are issued by the Administrator of Fish and Fish Products, Wartime Prices and Trade Board.

Canadian Civilian Supplies

Of the total allocation, 11,900,000 pounds are to be supplied by the east-coast industry and 15,000,000 pounds by the industry on the west coast. The allocation for the east coast includes the following varieties: Groundfish, "kippered snacks," "sardines," mackerel, tuna and halibut, salmon and trout, lobster, clams, lobster paste and tomalli; for the west coast, salmon, pilchards, "sardines," crabmeat, clams, and fish paste.

Canadian Services

Military requirements are still the largest under the allocation for Canadian Services, which may include any kind of fish requested by the claimants. Ships'-stores requirements are also extensive. Purchase is made directly from distributors by the agencies concerned.

British Ministry of Food

The allocation for the British Ministry of Food includes exports to the so-called L. F. C. areas, that is, British dominions and colonies, the requirements of which are screened by the London Food Council. The Canadian Government recognizes a particular responsibility for the feeding of the United Kingdom and its dependencies until the period of emergency is passed.

To implement this, the Department of Fisheries contracts with the canning industry for the procurement of salmon and herring (from the west coast) and sardines (from the east coast) in the quantities necessary to complete the allocation agreed upon through the Combined Food Board.

By agreement among the firms concerned, all shipments of salmon and herring under this allocation are handled by Calkins & Burke, Limited, of Vancouver. Shipments of sardines are handled by the producer.

Relief Feeding

All the fish made available for relief feeding is purchased and procured by the Canadian Export Board on behalf of UNRRA and other relief claimants. The Canadian contribution of canned fish for relief is a relatively large one. This is justified on the ground that the maintenance of stability in the potential markets of the canned-fish trade is essential to the long-term welfare of the Canadian fishery.

Of the total allocation for relief feeding, 9,400,000 pounds are being supplied from the east coast, and 31,000,000 pounds from the west coast. The allocation for the east coast includes the following varieties: Groundfish, herring, mackerel, alewives, and shad; for the west coast, herring and pilchards.

Exports to United States

The allocation of canned fish from Canada to the United States consists only of specialized types, such as lobster, kippered snacks, clams and mussels, tomalli and other fish pastes. Restriction of the allocation to these types is at the request of the United States authorities. Export permits are granted to any registered Canadian exporter, provided the applicant has the canned fish on hand at time of application.

This policy for the granting of permits has bene found necessary to obviate the possibility of any portion of the allocation being tied up by an exporter who, having received an export permit, is unable to procure the necessary supply.

Exports Elsewhere

This allocation, consisting of 1,800,000 pounds of west-coast and 1,200,000 pounds of east-coast canned fish, was set up primarily for the promotion of new and the retention of traditional markets. Canned groundfish, mackerel, pilchards, sardines, and lobster are the varieties included.

To achieve equitable distribution, it was suggested that exporters wishing to take advantage of this allocation write to the Export Division, Department of Trade and Commerce, Ottawa, not later than January 1, 1946, indicating the prospective market and the fish intended for shipment. When quotas for token shipments were established, the members of the trade and the allocation officers were so advised.

(Continued on p. 38)

New WORLD TRADE LEADS

Prepared in the Commercial Intelligence Unit, Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce

The firms and individuals listed below have recently expressed their interest in buying or selling in the United States, or in United States representations. Additional information concerning each export or import opportunity, including a World Trade Directory Report, is available to qualified United States firms, and may be obtained upon inquiry from the Commercial Intelligence Unit of the Department of Commerce, or through its field offices, for $1 each. *Interested United States firms should correspond directly with the firms listed concerning any projected business arrangements.*

While every effort is made to include only firms or individuals of good repute, the Department of Commerce cannot assume any responsibility for any transactions undertaken with these firms. The usual precautions should be taken in all cases, and all transactions are subject to prevailing export and import controls in this country and abroad. (*It is recognized that many of the items specified as export opportunities are in short supply or that full facilities for private trade may not have been reestablished in some of the areas from which inquiries have been received. However, many United States foreign traders are proceeding now with negotiations for business when conditions permit.*)

Index, by Commodities

[Numbers Shown Here Refer to Numbered Items in Section Below]

Air-conditioning: 8.
Automobiles and Automotive Equipment: 7, 9.
Beauty Parlor Equipment and Eupplies: 11.
Chemicals: 1, 21, 22, 34.
Clothing: 6.
Cosmetics: 6.
Construction Equipment: 12, 25.
Electrical Equipment and Appliances: 8.
Floor Coverings: 16.
Foodstuffs: 15, 37.
Glass and Chinaware: 10, 30.
Hardware: 16.
Household Appliances: 6, 9, 17.
Industrial Equipment: 3, 35.
Jewelry: 4.
Legal Service: 2.
Machinery: 5, 9, 14, 13, 20, 24, 26, 27, 31, 33, 35, 38.
Metals and Minerals: 1.
Needles: 34.
Office Supplies: 32.
Paints and Varnishes: 5.
Paper: 22, 26.
Photographic Supplies: 34.
Plastics: 19.
Rubber Goods: 28.
Sporting Goods: 29.
Textiles: 6, 10, 13, 16, 20.
Trucks: 23.

Foreign Visitors

1. *Argentina.*—Luis A. Gonzalez, representing Gonzalez, Castleton & Shaw, Paseo Colon 185, Buenos Aires, is interested in furthering business contacts for the importation and exportation of *steel and chemical products.* He is presently in this country for a visit of 60 days. U. S. mail address: *c/o* Argentine Consulate, Los Angeles, Calif. Itinerary: Los Angeles, San Francisco, Portland, Seattle, Chicago, New York City.

2. *Brazil*—Plinio Barreto, Rua Boa Vista 15, 5 Andar, sala 13, Sao Paulo, is interested in serving as *legal advisor* to United States firms interested in opening branches in Brazil. He is presently in this country until May 1, 1946. U. S. mail address: *c/o* Mrs. S. P. Muchmore, 534 Evening Star Building, Washington, D. C.

3. *Brazil*—Aron Neumann, representing R. Simon & Cia. Ltda., 56 Rua do Ouvidor, Rio de Janeiro, is interested in contacting firms dealing in *cranes, barges, locomotives, and freight cars.* He is presently in this country for a visit of 6 weeks. At present his U. S. mail address is not known. Itinerary: New York City, Washington, D. C.

4. *Canada*—Fred Lewis, Evelyn Hamill, and Lila Allen, representing Lewis Craft Supplies Limited, 8 Bathurst Street, Toronto 2–B, interested in *jewelry findings and handicraft supplies.* To arrive: February 19, via Niagara Falls, New York. Length of visit: until February 22. U. S. mail address: *c/o* Palmer House, Chicago, Ill. Itinerary: Chicago.

5. *China*—V. A. Borodin, 1335 Avenue Joffre, representing Olma Chemicals, 200 rue Cassini, Shanghai, is interested in *raw materials for paint manufacturing; machinery, equipment.* To arrive: February, via San Francisco. Length of visit: 4 months. U. S. mail address: *c/o* Horn Jeffreys Co., Burbank, Calif. Itinerary: San Francisco, Burbank, Chicago, New York City, Pittsburgh.

6. *Egypt*—Moise R. A. Daniel of Daniel & Levy, 3 rue Sandouk el Dein, Cairo, is interested in contacting manufacturers and exporters of *cosmetics, household utensils, textiles, hosiery.* He is presently in this country for a visit of 45 days. U. S. mail address: *c/o* Richard Fuchs, 118 Liberty Street, New York 6, N. Y. Itinerary: New York City, Philadelphia, Boston, Chicago.

7. *Iceland*—Sigurjon Petursson, Vidimelur 47, Reykjavik, representing H. F. Raesir, Skulagata 59, Reykjavik, is interested in *cars and trucks, spare parts and vehicle accessories.* To arrive: February, via New York City. Length of visit: 2 months. U. S. mail address: *c/o* Icelandic Consul, 595 Madison Avenue, New York, N. Y. Itinerary: New York City, Washington, D. C., Detroit, Chicago.

8. *India*—V. M. Thanawalla representing Excelsior Electric Co., and Thanawalla & Co., 192 Hornby Road, Kitab Mahal, Fort, Bombay, is interested in *electric goods, air-conditioning and refrigeration, neon signs.* To arrive: February, via Baltimore, Md. Length of visit: 3 months. U. S. mail address: *c/o* American Express Co., 65 Broadway, New York City. Itinerary: New York City, Buffalo, Detroit, Cleveland, Akron Cincinnati, Indianapolis, Milwaukee, Chicago, Rockford, St. Louis, Washington, D. C., Los Angeles.

9. *Mexico*—Justo A. Odriozola, Colonia Santa Maria No. 1, Box 25, Monterrey, representing Motores Generales, S. A., Box 786, Monterrey, Nuevo Leon, is interested in *automobiles and trailers, household equipment and farm machinery.* He is presently in this country for a visit of 2 weeks. As his U. S. mail address is not known, it is suggested that interested firms correspond directly with the Mexican firm. Itinerary: Cleveland, Toledo, Detroit, Chicago, New York City, and Peoria.

10. *Panama*—Alberto Ghitis, Box 310, Panama, is interested in *cotton and rayon textiles, dry goods, chinaware and glassware.* He is presently in this country for a visit of 1 month. U. S. mail address: % Park Central Hotel, Fifty-sixth Street and Seventh Avenue, New York, N. Y. Itinerary: New York City.

11. *Panama*—Tomas H. Jacome, Box 1102, Panama, is interested in *beauty-parlor and barber-shop equipment and supplies; beauty products and beauty preparations.* He is presently in this country for a visit of 1 month. U. S. mail address: % Panamanian Embassy, 30 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, N. Y. Itinerary: Los Angeles and New York City.

World Trade Directory Report being prepared.

12. *Sweden*—Messrs. Dahlbert and Bergvall, representing A. B. Bostadsorskning, Stockholm, plan to visit the United States in February 1946 for the purpose of studying the latest American technical development in *housing,* including prefabrication; *improved methods of construction; new materials and equipment.* U. S. mail address, until further notice: % Swedish Legation, 1900 Twenty-fourth Street, NW., Washington, D. C.

13. *Uruguay*—Carlos M. Avala of Ayala Hermanos, 1479 Ituzaingo, Montevideo, is interested in *textiles in general and haberdashery.* He is presently in this country for a visit of 4 months. U. S. mail address: % Steinam A. Co. Inc., 343 Fourth Avenue, New York, N. Y. Itinerary: New York City.

Directory of French Wines and Cognac

An English edition of a directory of fine wines and cognac produced in France is shortly to be prepared by a French publisher, according to the U. S. Embassy at Paris. The directory is known as Annuaire des Marques et Appellations d'Origine des Vins et Eaux de Vie de France. It is believed that this directory will be of interest to American hotel owners and importers of fine wines. Additional information may be obtained directly from the publisher, Editions Maurice Ponsot, 14 Rue de l'Armorique, Paris, France.

Export Opportunities

14. *Belgium*—Usines Gustave Boel S. A., La Louviere, desire purchase quotations on *molding machines.*

15. *Belgium*—V. Couder & Cie., 360 rue Leopold Ier, Jette-Brussels, desire purchase quotations on *malted milk, baby food.*

16. *Belgium*—Leon Delcourt, 14, Quai de Namur, Charleroi, desires purchase quotations on *floor coverings* (linoleum and linoleum-like products), *wall paper, paints, varnishes, oil cloth* (table and shelf), *rugs, upholstery and drapery fabrics, and hardware.*

17. *Belgium*—Francois de Muyider-Plaskie, Londerzeel, desires purchase quotations on *forks (hay, manure, hand), pruning shears, meat grinders, household utensils* (enameled, iron), *scythe stones, carborundum bricks.*

18. *Belgium*—Lue. de Poortere, 32, boulevard du Chemin de Fer, St. Nicolas-Waes, desires purchase quotations on *double cylinder machine for making stockings and socks.*

Seagoing Tugboats for Madagascar

Plans for the purchase of 10 seagoing tugboats have been announced by the Director General of Public Works of Madagascar, according to a recent report from the U. S. Consulate at Tananarive. The Director General has indicated a preference for tugs equipped with Diesel motors of from 35 to 50 horsepower, with reversing gears. The hull may be of either wood or steel. Drawings of the craft, showing approximate characteristics and dimensions, are obtainable on loan from the Commercial Intelligence Branch (U. S. Department of Commerce) upon request.

Interested builders or suppliers should communicate directly with the Directeur Général des Travaux Publics (Director General of Public Works), Tananarive, Madagascar. This is an office of the government of Madagascar.

19. *Belgium*—Maison F. St. Eloi & Co. S. A., 37, boulevard Audent, Charleroi, desire purchase quotations on *all kinds of resins and plastics* (raw materials and finished products).

20. *Belgium*—Établissements Wathelet Freres S. A., 637, Chaussee de Waterloo, Brussels, desire purchase quotations on *celluloid in sheets; rods and tubes; molding powder; silk fiber and nylon yarns used by brush manufacturers; celluloid machinery and moulding presses; brush machinery.*

21. *Belgium*—Itra S. A., 47, rue Fosse aux Loups, Brussels, desire purchase quotations on *dyestuffs—textile and leather.*

22. *Belgium*—R. Jonckheere S. A., 151, rue de Molenbeek, Brussels II, desire purchase quotations on *lumber, veneer, cardboard, containers.*

23. *Belgium*—L'Auto-Camion Bruxellois S. A., 8, Digue du Canal de Charleroi, Brussels, desire purchase quotations on *heavy-duty trucks* (Diesel).

24. *Belgium*—Robert Otten, 734, Chaussee de Gand, Brussels, desire purchase quotations on *machine for printing on aluminum tubes* used for pharmaceutical specialties.

25. *Belgium*—Pante & Masquelier, 26, rue Haute, Ghent, desire purchase quotations on *thermometers (house-heating boilers).*

26. *Belgium*—Papeteries de Belgique S. A., 39, rue de la Grande Ile, Brussels, desire purchase quotations on *wood pulp and papermaking and transforming machinery; raw materials for water-, steam-, and grease-proof paper; paper-testing apparatus.*

27. *Canada*—Carl J. Maier, 51 Oakmount Road, Toronto 9, desires purchase quotations on *automatic match-book machinery*—electrically operated, 60 cycle, alternating current.

28. *Canada*—Wright Shoe Co., P. O. Box 2, Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, desire purchase quotations on *rubber footwear (men's, women's, children's)*—lots from 100 to 1,000 pairs—seconds, job lines, army surplus goods.

29. *England*—B. C. O'Neill, 16 Broad Street, Jersey, Channel Islands, is interested in contacting American gun manufacturers, as he desires to obtain a supply of *shotguns* and, what is termed, *saloon rifles* (presumably target rifles .22 caliber). Interested firms are requested to supply full particulars with catalogs or cuts, quoting prices c. i. f. British Port, in Sterling if possible. Mr. O'Neill is reported to be the owner of the largest sports establishment in the Channel Islands.

World Trade Directory Report being prepared.

30. *France*—Societe Anonyme des Miroiteries de l'Ouest, 25 Rue d'Anjou, Angers, Maine et Loire, desire purchase quotations on material and equipment for the making of *mirrors and plate glass* and articles for resale to architects, contractors, painters, carpenters.

31. *Kenya*—Valli Rehemtulla & Co., P. O. Box 53, Kampala, Uganda, desire purchase quotations on *machinery for shelling cashewnuts*—240 volt, 50 cycle, alternating current; *machinery for vacuum packing cashewnuts*—240 colt, 50 cycle, alternating current.

32. *Netherlands*—H. Citroen, 96 Koninginnegracht, The Hague, desires purchase quotations on *office machines*, such as *typewriters, duplicators, calculators*—both hand and electric operated; current characteristics—220 volts a. c., 50 cycles, monophase.

33. *Netherlands*—N. V. Maatschappij "Nutricia," Zoetermeer, desire purchase quotations on *machinery for bottle rinsing, bottle filling, crown corking, labeling, washing; roller belts and conveyors.* Specifications will be submitted to interested firms upon request.

34. *Netherlands*—N. V. Nederlandsche Rontgen Apparaten Fabriek "Enraf," 69 Van Leeuwenhoeksingel, Delft, desire purchase quotations on *chemicals for X-ray films* (developer and fixation); *time relays for X-ray apparatus*, adjustable to from 1 to 10 seconds, with intervals of 1/10 second—current characteristics 220 volts a. c., 50 cycles, monophase; *stainless needles for epilation apparatus; portable and stationary infra-red apparatus* (operation lights) with adjustable lamps (for hospitals and practising—current: 500 to 1,000 watt, 220 volts a. c., 50 cycle, monophase; *portable and stationary artificial sun apparatus*—current: 250 and 500 watt, 220 volts, a. c., 50 cycles, monophase; *X-ray films*, dimensions 3½" x 5", 5" x 7", 7" x 9½", 9½" x 12", 12" x 16"; for lung diagnose 14" x 14".

35. *Netherlands*—H. A. J. M. Vermolen, 122 Obrechtstraat, The Hague, desire purchase quotations on *hydraulic jacks*, 10-ton capacity.

36. *Norway*—Torstein Pedersen, Kristiansund N., desires to purchase *one complete set of coffee-roasting equipment.* (The inquirer is reported to have lost his complete coffee-roasting equipment during the war, and it is considered essential to the welfare of the inquirer's residential town to have new equipment installed as soon as possible.)

37. *Philippines*—Far East (Philippines) Syndicate, Ltd., 332 Santa Mesa, Manila, desire purchase quotations on *onions, garlic, potatoes, and other fresh vegetables.*

38. *Switzerland*—Eduard Aeberhardt Ltd., 19 Bergstrasse, Winterthur, desire purchase quotations on *graphite electrodes* for electric smelting furnaces—100 tons, any size from 100 to 300 mm. diameter; *24 foundry molding machines* of pattern size 0.4 x 0.5 m. (or nearest size)—4 machines each of subsequent sizes up to 1.2 x 2 m; *6 sand mixing machines for foundries* of each size between 1 to 2.5 m. diameter; *12 abrasive cutoff machines* for metals.

Opportunities For American "Know-How"

An increasing number of inquiries from manufacturers abroad who are interested in licenses under American patents has recently been reaching the Department of Commerce. Some American manufacturers are also reporting an interest in foreign-licensing agreements. The Department of Commerce proposes to publish such offers and inquiries in condensed form for the information of United States patent holders.

The Department is not prepared to give advice on the merits of specific licensing proposals, and negotiations should be conducted directly with the foreign firms involved. World Trade Directory Reports, however, will be provided upon request.

The inquiries listed below have recently been referred to the Department of Commerce by American Foreign Service officers abroad. Similar inquiries will be published from time to time as they are received.

Canada—Northern Engineering and Supply Co., Ltd., Fort William, Ontario, is interested in licenses from American manufacturers to produce in its Fort William plant the following types of machinery: Small woodworking and machine-shop equipment; power shovels, Diesel and gas-driven; road-building machinery; washing machines and home appliances, including irons. Stokers and marine winches were manufactured prewar; during the war, the firm produced aircraft and gun parts.

Canada—Aarfors Ltd., Lachine, Quebec. This firm wishes to manufacture metal articles under license or to assemble parts shipped by American firms. It claims to be in a position to supply finances, physical property, and equipment, and would expect the American firm to furnish ideas, technical skill, raw materials, and subassemblies. World Trade Directory Report in preparation.

England—J. R. Bramah and Co., Ltd., Devonshire Stret, Sheffield, is intersted in entering into an arrangement with an American firm for manufacture under license of any kind of equipment for which it has facilities.

(Continued on p. 38)

Dredges and Barges for Turkish Port Improvements

Contracts for the construction of port installations on Eregli and Trabzon on the Black Sea in Turkey have now been awarded to two Turkish engineering firms, the U. S. Consulate General at Istanbul reports. Plans of the Turkish Government for the improvement of these ports were described briefly in FOREIGN COMMERCE WEEKLY of December 15, 1945. The Turkish Government's policy with regard to building new port installations in various cities of both the Aegean and the Black Sea coasts leads to the assumption that there will be an increasing demand for dredges and barges in that area. It is further evident, according to the consular report, that the contracting firms will be interested in the direct purchase of machinery of this type. The contracting firms are: Ari Insaat Turk Anonim Sirketi, 23–24 Imar Han Asirefondi Caddessi, and Rar Turk Limited Sosyetesi, 19–21 Sermet Han, Halil Pasa Soka, Galata, both of Istanbul, Turkey. Mr. Kemal Eyupoglu, director and manager of Ari Insaat Turk Anonim Sirketi, is now in the United States and can be reached c/o Mr. Vecihi Karabay, 570 Lexington Avenue, New York, N. Y. Interested United States suppliers should communicate directly with Mr. Eyupoglu or the firms in Turkey.

Oversea SURPLUS Disposal

Prepared by the Office of the Foreign Liquidation Commissioner

In reply to numerous inquiries from individuals and firms interested in purchasing former United States surplus now in the United Kingdom, Thomas B. McCabe, Foreign Liquidation Commissioner, stated several days ago that in view of the disposal of all Army and Navy surpluses in the United Kingdom to the British Government, prospective purchasers should contact the British Minister of Supply and Aircraft Production, Shell Mex House, London.

This former American surplus will be released through normal British trade channels, Commissioner McCabe explained; therefore interested American groups should file with the British Minister of Supply in order to receive full consideration under the recently concluded British surplus war property settlement.

In the recent transfer of all United States surplus in the United Kingdom to the British Government, the British agreed, first, to assume immediately upon request full custodial responsibility for all United States Army and Navy surplus property in the United Kingdom.

Second, to supply UNRRA with any items of surplus property desired by UNRRA for its relief purposes at reasonable prices comparable to amounts charged by the United States when it sells property to UNRRA.

Third, to avoid discrimination against and afford fair and equal treatment to American enterprises operating in the United Kingdom in connection with the distribution of any United States surplus property bearing the trade name or trade-mark of such American firms.

Fourth, to prevent the reexport to the United States of any Army or Navy surplus property included in this transfer.

From the Manila office of the Foreign Liquidation Commissioner last week came the announcement of the sale of more materials and equipment important to the further rehabilitation of the Philippine Commonwealth.

Included in these sales were two C–47's to the Old Mansion Import & Export Co.; a large quantity of hospital equipment and supplies to the University of the Philippines and also to Santo Tomas University; 7,000 untreated telephone poles to Co Tao; and chemicals to Jaime M. Lucas.

Also more than 3,000,000 batteries were made available to local consumers. Most of the batteries are of the flashlight type. They were sold to Chua Thian Siu, Folsom Co., Inc., Go Ching Tee, Irving Barach, Overseas Enterprise, and Presto Trading Co., Inc.

The China Aid Council of New York City purchased a 250-bed hospital in Manila. The hospital is being shipped to Mme. Sun-Yat-Sen, the widow of the founder of modern China. The FLC also announced that the Cotabato Timberland Co., of the Philippines, had purchased a sawmill and that 17,000 board feet of lumber had been sold to the St. Anthony Girls Institute.

Among other sales in the Philippines was the purchase of a large quantity of trucks by local organizations. The Saura Import & Export Co. bought 50 2½-ton trucks; Juan Lacson purchased 30 2½-ton trucks; the Folsom Co. bought 50 2½-ton cargo trucks, 20 ¾-ton weapons carriers, 17 ambulances, and 100 jeeps; the Construction Service Co. purchased 12 jeeps; and Yek Hua Trading Co. bought 3 4-ton dump trucks, 139 2½-ton dump trucks, 50 2½-ton cargo trucks, 8 1½-ton personnel carriers, 123 ¾-ton command cars, 222 jeeps, and 40 1-ton cargo trailers. The FLC also announced that the Netherlands Indies government purchased 27 aircraft engines.

Norway Labor Peace Speeds Recovery

Norway's production index which had dropped to 60 percent by VE-day has now mounted to 88 percent, and by the end of March employment in industry will have reached a prewar level. This sober optimism was voiced by Norwegian Minister of Social Affairs Sven Oftedal speaking at a Reconstruction Council meeting in Bergen recently. The heartening increase was attributed to new supplies and above all to the common realization that hard work alone can pull Norway through its postwar crisis. Minister Oftedal noted that among the most serious obstacles being surmounted were the shortage of consumer goods and the peculiar psychological inversion which every laborer must experience, where the deliberate "slow-down" which marked the 5 years of forced labor under the Nazis is to be replaced by an all-out effort.

Efforts to keep wages abreast of rising prices have so far provided 75 percent compensation, and, although neither labor nor management is completely satisfied, both sides have agreed to abide by the adjustment.

Outlining immediate reconstruction problems, Minister Oftedal stated that 8,000 loggers were still needed to meet this winter's timber quota, while the need for mobile labor called for the cooperation of all workers who were able to move to new reconstruction jobs.

Other activities of the FLC last week included the appointment of Chester T. Lane, of McLean, Va., as one of the Deputy Foreign Liquidation Commissioners.

Mr. Lane, who succeeds Marshall MacDuffie in supervising the activities of the former FEA, which were transferred to the Office of Foreign Liquidation in the State Department in October 1945, has served as Special Assistant to Commissioner McCabe and liaison officer with other Government agencies since last July.

During the past month Mr. Lane has also held the post of Acting General Counsel, in addition to his other duties, during the oversea assignment of Col. F. F. Greenman.

As Deputy Commissioner he will coordinate the lend-lease, UNRRA, and surplus-property functions of FLC and represent the Commissioner with respect to over-all negotiations with foreign nations for the settlement of lend-lease and surplus property.

General Counsel of the Securities and Exchange Commission from 1938 to 1942, Mr. Lane came to the FLC from the office of the Attorney General of the United States where he had served as Special Assistant to the Attorney General for 3 years. He has been chairman of the War Department Civilian Legal Personnel Committee since 1942.

Prior to his Government service, he was practicing attorney in New York City with the firm of Milbank, Tweed, Hope, and Webb during the period 1930–35.

Lane has a B. A. degree, 1926, and an LL. B. degree, 1930, both from Harvard.

Panama's New Stamps

A decree signed by the President of Panama authorizes the issuance of 1,000,000 postage stamps commemorating the meeting of Panama's Second National Constitutional Assembly. The stamps will be put in circulation on June 15, 1946, and their sale will continue until the issue is exhausted.

According to the decree, 600,000 of the commemorative stamps are to be of 8-cent denomination, 200,000 of 5-cent, and 200,000 of 2-cent. The word "Panama" will appear across the top of all stamps and the words "Asamblea Nacional Constituyente—1945" across the bottom. The 2-cent stamps will be rectangular in shape, standard size, and carry the coat of arms of the Republic of Panama as adopted by the Constitution of 1904. The 8-cent air-mail stamps will be slightly larger than standard size and will carry an engraving of the facade of the National Theater, where the assembly of 1945 met, as well as the word "Aereo."

Export-Import Bank Activities

Loan Agreement Between Export-Import Bank and the Republic of Finland

STATEMENT BY THE BANK

Approval of a credit line and loan agreement between the Republic of Finland and the Export-Import Bank of Washington by its Board of Directors was announced January 31 by Wayne C. Taylor, President of the Export-Import Bank. A line of credit of $35,000,000 is provided by the Bank upon which Finland may draw for the purchase in the United States of urgently needed materials, equipment, and services. In addition, the agreement provides for refunding existing loans from the Export-Import Bank to the Finnish-American Trading Corporation which, with principal and interest, total approximately $25,000,000. These existing credits were granted in 1939 and 1940 and were guaranteed by the Republic of Finland. This new credit and refunding operation does not affect the special credit of $5,000,000 to Finland for the purchase of raw cotton, which was recently announced by the Bank.

Finland has estimated that it will ultimately require additional dollar credits to meet its reconstruction and reconversion requirements and to reestablish a balanced economy to a point where foreign assistance would no longer be required. The new credit, however, is as large as the Export-Import Bank feels is consistent with the many demands upon its funds.

"The record of Finland in dealing with her financial obligations to the Export-Import Bank has been an enviable one considering the difficulties of the war period," Mr. Taylor said. "Slightly over 10 percent of the principal loaned in 1939 and 1940 has already been repaid. Payments of interest have also been made amounting to approximately $4,000,000 and representing about 77 percent of the interest accruing during this difficult period. Such remaining principal and interest as would have become due were deferred by mutual agreement, and there has been no default.

"In the 1930 decade, Finland reduced her outstanding foreign indebtedness from approximately $200,000,000 to $8,000,000. The war left Finland again with foreign obligations of approximately $180,000,000 exclusive of reparations to Russia. Her production facilities were relatively undamaged, however, and her principal needs are for food and industrial raw materials and fuel. With the necessary interim financial assistance from the United States, I am confident that Finland can and will continue this splendid record", Mr. Taylor continued.

"The credit agreement specifies the types of products that may be purchased in the United States, and specifies that they may not be reexported," Mr. Taylor stated.

Annual Finnish exports from 1936 through 1938 averaged approximately $180,000,000 annually, and imports $175,000,000. During that prewar period, the country's principal exports were lumber, paper, and wood pulp. Its imports were very diversified and consisted of foodstuffs, fertilizers, other chemicals, textiles, hides, rubber, coal, petroleum products, iron, steel, machinery, and a very wide variety of miscellaneous products. From 1936 to 1938 average U. S. exports to Finland were approximately $17,000,000 and imports from Finland about $15,000,000.

The use of the credit is restricted to the purchase in the United States of certain types of supplies, materials, equipment, and services approved or to be approved by the Export-Import Bank. These are expected to be approximately as follows:

1. Animals and animal products, edible.
2a. Hides and skins, raw, except furs.
2b. Leather and manufactures.
2c. Other animal products, inedible.
3. Vegetable food products and beverages (including fodders and feeds and spices).
4a. Rubber (synthetic) and rubber manufactures.
4b. Seeds (including oilseeds).
4c. Tobacco and manufactures.
4d. Other vegetable products, inedible.
5. Textile fibers and manufactures.
6a. Coal and related fuels.
6b. Petroleum and products.
6c. Other nonmetallic minerals.
7. Iron and steel and manufactures thereof.
8. Other metals and manufactures.
9. Machinery of all kinds.
10. Transportation equipment (including automobiles and trucks, parts, accessories, and service equipment; aircraft, parts, and accessories; and railway equipment).
11a. Medicinal and pharmaceutical preparations.
11b. Fertilizers and fertilizing materials.
11c. Other chemicals and related products.
12. Scientific and professional instruments, apparatus, and supplies.

The new credit is to be available for use prior to June 30, 1948. The agreement contains the same general provisions as other reconstruction loan agreements entered into by the Bank, such as restrictions of shipments to vessels of U. S. registry, the right of cancellation by either party at any time as to unused portions of the credit, the borrowers undertaking to register the securities under the Securities Act of 1933 upon the Bank's request, and an undertaking to supply the Bank periodically with full information as to the financial and economic position of the Finnish economy.

Advances under the credit are to be made against notes of the Republic of Finland bearing interest at 2½ percent until March 15, 1951. Existing notes of the Finnish Trading Corporation are to be exchanged for similar notes of the Republic of Finland, with interest at 2½ percent until 1951. At the maturity of the notes in 1951, they all will be exchanged for three series of new notes. The first series totaling $20,000,000 will bear interest at 2½ percent payable in equal semiannual installments until 1956. The second series of $20,000,000 will carry interest at 3 percent with principal payable from 1956 to 1961. The third series of $20,000,000 will carry interest at 3½ percent and mature from 1961 to 1966. Finland has reserved the right to prepay any of the notes prior to maturity.

Increase of $780,000 in Export-Import Bank Credit to Ecuador

STATEMENT BY THE BANK

An increase of $780,000 in a line of credit originally granted to Ecuador in 1942 has been approved by the Board of Directors of the Export-Import Bank, Wayne C. Taylor, President of the Bank, announced on January 22. The original credit line of $1,200,000 was to assist in the financing of a section of the Pan American Highway between Guamote and Tambo and a lateral road from Tambo to Duran. Ecuador, however, has been financing the construction of the Tambo-to-Duran road from its own funds without resort to loans from the Export-Import Bank. The new total of $1,980,000 is available for the construction of the Guamote-to-Tambo link of the Pan American Highway.

"The credits granted to Ecuador to assist in the construction of the Pan American Highway," Mr. Taylor said, "carry out the policy of the Export-Import Bank to make developmental loans in cases where such loans are expected to broaden the economy of the borrowing country in a manner which will tend to increase exports and imports of the United States."

Ecuador has also agreed to advance $780,000 from its funds toward the construction of the Quevedo-Manta road, a portion of another lateral of the Pan American Highway, to supplement a loan of $2,500,000 made by the Export-Import Bank in 1942 for this purpose.

Between 1940 and 1943 the Bank also assisted Ecuador in financing the construction of the Cuenca-Loja link of the Pan American Highway with a loan of $1,230,000. Thus, total Export-Import Bank assistance to Ecuador on behalf of the Pan American Highway and its laterals amounts to $5,710,000. Upon completion of all construction provided for in these credits, the Pan American Highway in Ecuador is expected to be passable in all weather for about 625 miles, out of 740 miles, between its northern and southern borders. The portion remaining unprovided for lies between Loja and the Peruvian border.

(Continued on p. 39)

Late AIRGRAMS

Reports Submitted by Offices of the U. S. Foreign Service

Denmark

(From the U. S. Legation, Copenhagen)

The foreign trade of Denmark, which is of vital importance to the economic life of the country, continued to improve in October 1945. While the gain in imports was slight, exports—at 98,400,000 crowns—exceeded those of the preceding month by 13,900,000 crowns and were 20,000,000 crowns in excess of October imports.

For the first 10 months of 1945 imports were valued at 497,900,000 crowns, of which 309,600,000 crowns worth entered during May–October. Imports for the comparable 10-month period in 1944 were valued at 1,000,400,000 crowns. The 1945 decline was fairly evenly distributed among raw materials, semimanufactures, and manufactured goods. The value of imports during the January–October period of 1944 and 1945 cannot be compared with that entering during the corresponding 1939 period (1,397,100,000 crowns), inasmuch as the latter represents a far greater volume of goods owing to the greatly increased price levels now prevailing.

Danish exports during the January–October 1945 period reached a value of 683,800,000 crowns, as against 1,140,900,000 crowns for the corresponding 1944 period (and 1,289,500,000 crowns for the 10 months of 1939).

As compared with 1944, exports in the 10-month period of 1945 show a decline of about 55 percent for nonagricultural products, but were down only about 30 percent for agricultural products. Exports of beef, veal, bacon, butter, eggs, and sugar increased in 1945, but live cattle, fresh pork, cheese, and condensed milk declined. The 1945 exports were considerably smaller than the comparable 1939 exports, except in the case of fresh pork and sugar.

Danish wholesale prices continue their moderate downward trend, largely because of lower prices for imported mineral oils, metals, textiles, and some chemicals. The wholesale price index (1935=100) was 204 for November 1945, 206 for the preceding month, and 220 in March 1945. Export prices have declined somewhat, but the wholesale index for goods for the domestic market is practically unchanged. Retail prices have not yet receded and the October 1945 quarterly cost-of-living index remained at the maximum, 170.

Activity in industrial production continues to improve, as evidenced by an index figure for it, in October 1945, of 90, as compared with 85 in September and 77 in May 1945, and an average of 96 for the year 1944 (1935=100).

Conditions in the labor market so far have developed more favorably than had been anticipated in view of the raw-material and fuel situation and seasonal unemployment. At the end of October the number of insured workers who had been unemployed for more than 6 days totaled 38,643 or 6.8 percent. Workers unemployed for more than 6 days—the majority of whom are generally considered to be in transition from one job to another—numbered 29,482. At the end of September, application of the Government-sponsored share-the-work schemes accounted for an additional 26,000 full-time unemployed, and about 14,000 workers were employed on public-work projects. These 40,000 workers represent an additional 7 percent of Denmark's organized labor who were not engaged in productive work.

Funds appropriated by the Government to meet increasing unemployment include 118,000,000 crowns for emergency road and construction projects and 90,000,000 crowns for the removal of German fortifications. This public relief work, in accordance with legislation passed on July 24, 1945, will be carried out on normal conditions, 48 hours per week and full wage tariffs.

A new collective-bargaining situation is arising in Denmark, since the stipulated 3 months' notice was given by the trade unions before December 1 for the termination on March 1, 1946, of practically all current agreements then expiring. Very few agreements expire on other dates. Demands advanced by the workers will include the general cost-of-living supplements and basic wage supplements granted during the war, and information now available indicates that there is a wide difference in opinion between labor and management in regard to wage adjustments required to reestablish prewar living conditions of the workers. Increased imports of fuel and raw materials would have an important influence toward countering the growth of a state of unrest.

Official Copenhagen stock-exchange quotations have remained fairly stable since liberation. The combined index for shares was 123 for November 1945 (131 in April 1945), and that for bonds was 111 for November 1945 (110 for April 1945). The August 1939 figures were 104.1 for shares and 99.9 for bonds.

Italy

(From the U. S. Embassy, Rome)

The month-old Italian Government entered 1946 assured of UNRRA assistance but beset by manifold uncertainties, both economic and financial, which plagued Italy throughout 1945.

In an effort to solve immediate problems, while determining to extend the ban against dismissals in northern industry to March 31, 1946, it decided to permit lay-offs of nonworking employees on a limited scale. It did not fix, however, the extent to which the State will continue to subsidize unproductive labor, nor the rate at which nonworking employees may be released by private industry. It decided on a year-end bonus for State employees without determining its amount. It also determined that a Ministry of Foreign Trade should be established to coordinate all import and export functions.

Among the longer-term problems, the Government debated the advisability of a currency-conversion operation linked with fiscal and tax objectives as against a simple substitution of new currency for old, and attempted to lay down the lines of a general economic and financial policy aimed at stabilizing wage and price levels, increasing the production and movement of goods, and curbing inflation.

Late in December the Italian Government, in cooperation with the Allied Commission and the Italian Mission of UNRRA, issued a study of Italian import requirements for 1946, including a recommended utilization of an assumed UNNRA allocation to Italy of $450,000,000 as well as an over-all estimate of Italian needs in 1946, and an estimate of Italy's probable needs for financial help from 1946 to 1950.

The proposed UNRRA program for 1946, it is estimated, would provide the following percentages of Italy's most pressing import needs: Foodstuffs, 70; pharmaceuticals and health supplies, 100; fuel (coal and petroleum) 43.5; agricultural supplies, 42.2; industrial supplies, 22.

More than half of the UNRRA funds for Italy, assumed to amount to $450,000,000 (actually granted later), would be spent for food, principally wheat and flour, to provide as much as possible of the 2,000,000 tons which Italy needs between now and the next harvest and to maintain the basic 300-gram bread and pasta ration for its 36,000,000 nongrain producers. Other important items include between 400,000 and 500,000 tons of coal per month and about 800,000 tons of petroleum products during the year.

A comparison of the proposed UNRRA program with the estimated import needs of the country, totaling $450,000,000 and $1,100,000,000, respectively, breaks down as follows (in millions of dollars, UNRRA figures in parentheses): Foodstuffs, 293.6 (204.2); coal, 70 (36.7); petroleum products, 46.7 (14.1); fats, oils, etc., 24.8 (12.7); textile raw materials, 123.6 (33.9); hides and related products, 28.3 (13.7); rubber and allied products, 20.8 (8.3); materials for paper industry, 4.9 (1.3); lumber, 69 (4.5); materials for building industry, 8.3 (1.9); steel and

materials for steel industry, 42.3 (6.9); nonferrous metals, 29.5 (4.3); agricultural supplies, 23.6 (10); chemical products 3 (—); miscellaneous industrial supplies, 3.2 (—); medical and health supplies, 10 (10); industrial and utilities equipment, 60 (5). Freight estimates and contingency reserve respectively, are: 138.5 (60); 100 (22.5).

Whereas the basic rehabilitation policy, as stated by UNRRA, is to provide raw materials and food to enable Italian workers and farmers to produce in their own country the commodities most urgently needed by the population, the Italian Government's import program, broken down as shown above, represents an estimate—without regard to financing or available supply—of the imports needed not only to sustain life and restore the transport system, but also to "assure the maximum employment of the labor force and the greatest exploitation of the technical resources of the nation" after taking into account the insufficiency of dock facilities and internal transport as well as the reduced availability of electric power. The Italian Government has estimated that if this program is fully actuated, employment in industries, mining, and public utilities could be brought to about 90 percent of normal, and that the general level of industrial reactivation could reach about 75 percent of the prewar (1938) level. Certain industries would produce above the prewar rate. The index, based on 1938 as 100, according to this plan, would be: Rolling stock, 120; road transport, 200; production of motors, processing machines, and machine tools, 140.

First supplies under the new UNRRA program are scheduled to reach Italy late in January. Supplies loaded in December under the Allied Commission program will continue to arrive into February. These latter are principally of coal and wheat. The delay in wheat arrivals, in addition to the lowest wheat harvest in 25 years, caused stocks in Italy to fall below the amount considered necessary as a minimum reserve to insure maintenance of present low urban rations. Although supplies have been moved to deficit areas (about 70 percent of available stocks including native wheat are concentrated in four regions) the Italian Government in late December ordered suspension of the manufacture of pasta and announced the temporary suspension of the pasta ration as a safety measure to insure continuation of the bread ration. From January 10, it is expected that the bread ration in south and central Italy will be supplemented with an increased distribution of rice.

Uruguay

(From the U. S. Embassy, Montevideo)

Harvesting of wheat and linseed was aided considerably this year by the lifting of fuel rationing in December so that these crops will be somewhat larger than last year, even though unfavorable weather has reduced the yields to less than preseason estimates. The foreign-owned meat-packing houses resumed small-scale buying in January in order to fill foreign orders.

For the 11 months ended November 1945, Uruguay had an export balance of $26,300,000 after making adjustment for gold imports of $21,000,000 for banking purposes. Of total exports which amounted to $112,000,000, both meat and meat products and dirty wool accounted for 27 percent each, whereas washed wool and hides and skins amounted to 19 and 9 percent, respectively. The United States and the United Kingdom remained Uruguay's principal customers, taking $51,600,000 and $27,700,000 worth of goods, respectively. Imports for the entire year of 1945 amounted to $114,800,000 of which the United States provided $29,100,000 or $10,300,000 more than in 1944, and Brazil $19,300,000, or an increase of $3,300,000 over the preceding year. Argentina and Great Britain followed next in order, exporting to Uruguay merchandise valued at $11,800,000 and $4,500,000, respectively.

Notwithstanding the rapidly rising prices which were felt in all quarters, retail trade experienced its customary summer boom as tourists from abroad swelled the vacationing crowds. Price controls applied only to a relatively few basic foodstuffs and prime materials, and some of these, such as for bread, meat, and sugar have been allowed increases. Pressure was also being exerted for increases in milk and for the fares on Montevideo's bus system. Manufacturers and merchants in general were raising their prices to compensate for their rising costs, which were attributed to wage and other labor awards and the new excess-profits fax.

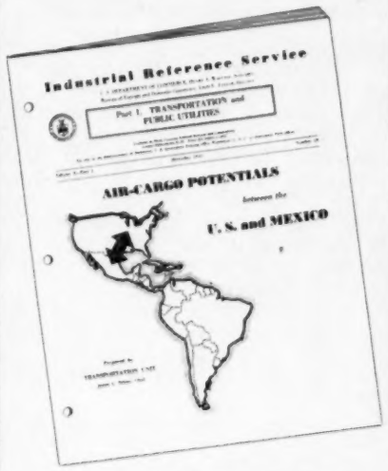
There was no material change in the troubled labor situation. Social unrest continued as a result of the increasing cost of living, and demands for higher wages continued. The plumbers' strike was settled early in January through Government intervention, the union winning practically all of its demands. In Montevideo the butchers staged a general stoppage of work in demand of higher official meat prices, which were finally granted by the Government after the population went meatless for several days.

Building construction, besides being troubled by the plumbers' strike, suffered further delays as a result of the nonarrival or cancellation of orders for materials placed abroad. Industrial production maintained its normal level of activity, although most enterprises felt shortages in one line or another. The wool market remained quiet, but firm, exports to the United States since the first of January amounting to 8,765 bales.

The lifting of petroleum rationing in December has caused an increase in automobile traffic which is being further accentuated as owners bring cars out of storage for renewed registration and use. New bus chassis from England and truck chassis from the United States have arrived, the former consigned to the Montevideo bus cooperative. Except for token shipments from England no passenger automobiles have been delivered. There is increasing interest regarding the resumption of imports of American cars. It was announced that truck rationing would be discontinued in the near future, and the removal of such restrictions should improve that market.

The tire situation remains critical despite the fact that FUNSA, the local tire factory, advertises its capacity to supply tires for passenger cars. Bus and

(Continued on p. 39)



The Industrial Reference Service, which was discontinued following our entry into the war, was resumed early in 1945. As before, it is issued in parts, each covering a major industry or a group of associated industries. Coverage includes both foreign and domestic developments.

It is issued in loose-leaf printed form and designed for filing in standard three-ring binders. Some are illustrated.

Part 1, pictured above, deals with transportation. It is available on subscription or single copy basis; $1.50 a year, 5 cents a copy. Subscriptions may be entered with the Superintendent of Documents, Washington 25, D. C., or with any of the Department's Field Offices, a list of which appears on the inside front cover. Checks should be made payable to the Superintendent of Documents.

Releases which have already appeared are listed below:

INDUSTRIAL REFERENCE SERVICE

Part 1: Transportation and Public Utilities

Nos. 1–5. Air-Cargo Potentials Between the United States and Various Latin American Countries:

No. 1. Chile.
No. 2. Bolivia.
No. 3. Ecuador.
No. 4. Honduras.
No. 5. Guatemala.
No. 6. Highways of Peru.
No. 7. Electric Power Industry of Cuba.
No. 8. Power Facilities of Venezuela.
No. 9. Railways of Peru.
No. 10. Air-Cargo Potentials Between the United States and Mexico.

680354—46——3

News by COUNTRIES

Argentina

Tariffs and Trade Controls

Merchandise - Marking Regulations Eased for Branches of Foreign Companies—The Argentine merchandise-marking regulations, as applying to labels used by branches of foreign companies established in Argentina, have been modified so as to permit a wider use of foreign language terms according to a decree (No. 5672/44) dated March 8, 1944, published in the Boletín Oficial of April 3, 1945.

As modified, the present Argentine regulations applying to labels used by Argentine branches of foreign companies are as follows:

Branches of foreign companies established in Argentina and those which may be established in the future, as well as firms authorized to manufacture their products, may use on their labels the same marks used on the labels of the head company, even though they are intergrated by terms in a foreign language, but they must indicate clearly in an especially visible place near those marks, the expression "Industria Argentina" (Argentine Industry).

The location of the office of the head company may be indicated on the principal label, provided that there be added in the same characters the Argentine city where the branch house is located, as, for example: Paris—Buenos Aires; London—Rosario—New York.

Where labels have already been registered by the head company prior to the basic (merchandise marking) law of November 10, 1923, (Law 11,275), they may be used by the branch establishment in Argentina, provided the words "Industria Argentina" are added on the containers, wrappers, principal labels, or on the manufactured product itself, in a well-defined and visible form.

[Owners of the mimeographed circular Argentina—Revised Regulations Governing Merchandise Marking (F. T. No. 123, Misc. No. 5), dated March 23, 1936, should substitute the first paragraph of the section "Argentine Branches of Foreign Companies" (page 3) by the first paragraph of the revised regulations as given above.]

Burma

Commodity Controls

Control Inaugurated Over Production and Distribution of Various Commodities. The government of Burma has issued a Timber Project Order with a view to controlling extraction, conversion, and marketing of forest produce in Burma, states a press note issued by the Commerce Department of the Government of India on November 10, 1945.

The government of Burma also has issued a Civil Supplies Order to control the distribution of essential supplies to the civil population and is planning to control rice, edible oils, pulses, cotton, salt, and sugar, and exports and imports generally.

Chile

Tariffs and Trade Controls

Most-Favored-Nation Customs Treatment Continued for Merchandise of Spain.—Merchandise of Spanish origin will continue to be accorded most-favored-nation customs treatment in Chile as provided by the exchange of notes between the two countries of November 16, 1945, by Decree No. 4954 of the Chilean Ministry of Finance of November 23, 1945, published in the Diario Oficial of December 10, 1945, and effective for 1 year from December 1, 1945.

Spanish sherry wine (product of Jerez) will continue to be conceded a preferential customs duty rate of 4 gold pesos per liter, by the same decree and for the same period of time.

[For previous announcement of most-favored-nation customs treatment accorded to Spain see FOREIGN COMMERCE WEEKLY of March 10, 1945.]

Costa Rica

Transport and Communication

Increase in Services of TACA.—TACA increased its local services in Costa Rica, effective December 13, 1945. The new schedules include three weekly services to Limon and three daily services to Puntarenas, two of which continue to various points in Guanacaste. Some additional towns are added to the itineraries.

The Cover Picture

In Caracas

The Avenida Sur, one of the main business streets in Venezuela's capital city, Caracas, is portrayed in our cover picture this week. In a variety of economic and social fields Venezuela is exceptionally active today, and one of those fields is construction—as is strikingly brought out in our fourth feature article this week.

The above picture, a gift of the Venezuelan Ministerio de Obras Públicas, was made available for our use by the Pan American Union.

Cuba

Tariffs and Trade Controls

Feedstuffs: Duties and Taxes on Imports Waived Until June 30, 1946.—Imports into Cuba of all livestock and poultry feeds included under Cuban customs tariff items 269–A, 269–B, 269–C, 269–D, 269–E and 269–G are exempted from payment of import duties and taxes until June 30, 1946, according to Decree No. 4038, published in the Oficial Gazette of December 31, 1945.

The following feedstuffs are covered by the above-mentioned items of the Cuban customs tariff:

Dried hay; stalks and heads of millet; other herbage used as feed, including leaves, and waste of plants; bran and hulls of cereals; grape (olive) bagasse; cakes, paste, powders, and meal of oleaginous seeds; pulps; dregs, and residues from industries, suitable for the feeding of livestock; feed for fowl, including mixtures of three or more crushed grains such as corn, wheat, oats, and sunflowers, and finely ground mixtures or compositions of animal substances, including oyster shells.

Tax Surcharge of 20 Percent Extended For an Indefinite Period.—The 20-percent tax surcharge established in Cuba by Law No. 28 of September 8, 1941, is extended for an indefinite period by Decree No. 4100 of December 28, 1945.

The 20-percent surcharge, which was created as an emergency measure, is regulated by Decree No. 2597 of September 17, 1941, and was to remain in effect until such time as the Cuban Congress enacted a new budget. No new budget law has been enacted since 1938. On November 9, 1944, the Cuban Government issued Law No. 3, authorizing a credit of 5,000,000 pesos for hurricane-relief purposes and pledging the receipts of the 20-percent surcharge. This law contained a clause to the effect that this surcharge would remain in force until December 31, 1945. However, Decree No. 4100 extends the application of Decree No. 2597 until such time as Congress approves new general budgets.

[For the Cuban taxes on which the 20-percent surcharge is applicable see FOREIGN COMMERCE WEEKLY of October 18, 1941.]

Czechoslovakia

Exchange and Finance

Limitation on the Import of National Currency.—The American Embassy in Prague has been informed by the Czechoslovak Ministry of Finance that American businessmen are permitted to bring into Czechoslovakia not more than 300

Czechoslovak crowns and no notes in denominations of more than 20 crowns ($US1=50 Czechoslovak crowns).

Finland

Exchange and Finance

Loan Agreement Between Export-Import Bank of Washington and Republic of Finland.—Approval of a credit line and loan agreement between Finland and the Export-Import Bank was announced January 31 by the President of the Bank. Details of the arrangement will be found at the front of this issue of FOREIGN COMMERCE WEEKLY, in the special department entitled "Export–Import Bank Activities."

Tariffs and Trade Controls

Temporary Import Duty Exemption Withdrawn For a Number of Foodstuffs.—Temporary import-duty exemptions on a considerable list of necessities, including numerous foodstuffs, were cancelled by a Government decree of December 20, 1945, published as No. 1237 of Finlands Författningssamling, effective January 1, 1946.

The articles affected are potatoes, eggs, oatmeal, oat groats, and rolled oats, horse meat, rabbit meat, barley and milled products thereof, potato flakes, and certain fish products.

[See FOREIGN COMMERCE WEEKLY of November 2, November 23, and December 14, 1940; March 8, June 28, and July 12, 1941; and April 7, 1945, for announcements concerning Finnish import-duty exemptions.]

France

Exchange and Finance

French-Swiss Financial Agreement.—A financial agreement between France and Switzerland, replacing the earlier agreement of March 22, 1945, was concluded on November 16, 1945, and became effective on the same date. The text was published in the Feuille Officielle Suisse du Commerce of December 20, 1945.

In order to provide the necessary means of settlement for payments in Switzerland by persons residing in the franc zone and on the other hand in the franc zone by persons residing in Switzerland, the Swiss National Bank, acting for the account of the Swiss government, and the Bank of France, acting for the account of the French Government, will sell to each other Swiss francs against French francs and vice versa. For this purpose each bank will open an account in the currency of the other country. Arrangements are also made covering payments in local currencies, other than French francs, of the French franc zone.

So long as the net balance between the two accounts does not exceed 250,000,000 Swiss francs or its equivalent in French francs no special guaranty or conversion of the balance into gold or foreign currency will be demanded. If the balance should exceed this amount the creditor bank of issue may demand that it be converted into gold.

Operations under the agreement shall be on the basis of the official exchange rate, which cannot be altered except after prior notice. If the rate is altered the accounts will be closed and the amount of the balance determined at the old rate. This balance, if expressed in the currency the value of which is reduced, is to be adjusted by the debtor Government in proportion to the change in the rate.

Either bank will have the right to sell to the other at any time against all or part of the existing balance, either the currency of the other country, or gold (at an agreed rate), or currency of a third country (if the bank of the other country agrees) at the official purchase price for that currency.

If the credit balance of the Swiss National Bank at the Bank of France reaches at least 50,000,000 French francs, the Swiss National Bank is at liberty at any time to acquire, by debit to this account, French Treasury bills to be held at the Bank of France. The Swiss bank may cause to be repurchased all or part of these bills by the Bank of France at any time on current terms, or, if only 3 months at most remain before maturity, to have all or part of them discounted by the Bank of France at the official rate. The Bank of France may take similar action with respect to Swiss Treasury bills if the balance at the Swiss National Bank reaches at least 4,000,000 Swiss francs. The foregoing provisions are subject to the earlier provisions regarding changes in the official rate of exchange between the two currencies.

Revisions of the present agreement will be made if the two Governments adhere to an international monetary accord during its life.

At the expiration of the present agreement, settlement of the balance will be made at the official rate. The balance, to the extent immediate settlement is not made in the creditor bank's currency, shall be applied to the purchase of Treasury bills of the debtor country. These bills will be expressed in the currency of the creditor country and will bear a rate 1 percent above the official discount rate for accepted drafts in that country. They shall be amortized according to a schedule to be agreed upon.

The life of the present agreement is 3 years, renewable by silent consent from year to year in the absence of 3 months' prior notice. It can be terminated at any time on 3 months' notice.

Balances from the abrogated agreement of March 22, 1945, are carried over into the accounts set up under the present agreement. Balances under the Exchanges of Letters of May 30, 1941, and January 10 to 13, 1944, will be treated in

Pertinent Comments on World Economy Today

[Being one of a series of excerpts from books, pamphlets, and speeches]

Operations and Policies of the Export-Import Bank

The present program of the Export-Import Bank grows out of its varied experience since 1934, adapted and expanded to met the urgent needs of the current situation. The Export-Import Bank Act of 1945 placed the management of the Bank in a Board of Directors consisting of the Secretary of State and four full-time directors appointed by the President of the United States by and with the advice and consent of the Senate. Participation by other Government agencies in shaping the policies of the Bank is provided through an Advisory Board consisting of the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Bank, the Secretaries of State, Treasury, and Commerce, and the Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

The National Advisory Council created by the Bretton Woods Agreements Act has the same membership as the Advisory Board of the Export-Import Bank, except that its Chairman is the Secretary of the Treasury. It is responsible for coordinating the policies of the Export-Import Bank with those of the United States representatives on the Bretton Woods organizations and with all other agencies of the Government to the extent that they make foreign loans or engage in foreign financial transactions.

As a general rule, the Bank extends credit only to finance purchases of materials and equipment produced or manufactured in the United States and the technical services of American firms and individuals as distinguished from outlays for materials and labor in the borrowing country or purchases in third countries. The reasons for doing so are principally two: (1) The limited resources of the Bank should be used, with rare exceptions, solely for the purpose of directly financing and facilitating United States foreign trade; (2) foreign countries should not ordinarily assume external indebtedness to finance expenditures in local currency.

This policy has been the subject of considerable misunderstanding, and has raised the issue of "tied" loans. In my opinion this issue has neither practical nor theoretical significance as applied to the Bank's current operations. This is because the Export-Import Bank does not use its loans as a means of inducing purchases of goods and services in the United States which would otherwise have been made in other countries. On the contrary, the Export-Import Bank leaves the decision as to what will be purchased and where entirely to the discretion of the borrowers. Once a borrower has decided, on the basis of price, quality, and delivery considerations, to buy certain things in the United States, the Bank may then undertake to finance the purchase. In other words, the Bank stands ready in general to finance dollar requirements.

(Remarks by Wayne Chatfield Taylor, President, Export-Import Bank of Washington, before the Forty-second Annual Banquet of the American Institute of Banking, New York City.)

We'll Get More Economic and Financial Data From Italy

Measures limiting or suspending the publication of records and documents which reflect or concern the economic and financial life of Italy were revoked by Decree of the Council of Ministers, dated December 21, 1945, and published in the Gazzetta Ufficiale, No. 1 of January 2, 1946. These measures were enacted in application of Royal Decree No. 1844, of October 28, 1935, authorizing the head of the Government (Mussolini, at that time), in exceptional circumstances and when national exigencies so required, to suspend the publication of such information even when specifically required by existing law.

(An announcement of Royal Decree Law No. 1844 was published in Commerce Reports of December 14, 1935.)

like manner after auditing of accounts in suspense.

[Notice of the French-Swiss financial agreement of March 22, 1945, was published in the FOREIGN COMMERCE WEEKLY of September 29, 1945.]

French North Africa

Commodity Controls

Cereals: Circulation and Utilization of 1945–46 Crop Regulated in Algeria.—The circulation, declaration of harvests, and utilization by producers of cereals of the 1945–46 crop in Algeria, French North Africa, as well as the supplying of seed to cereal producers, were regulated by four orders of June 8, 1945, published in the Journal Officiel of Algeria on June 19.

Mahboula Esparto: Prohibition on Gathering and Marketing Withdrawn in Tunisia.—The temporary prohibition on the gathering, transportation, preparation for market, and purchase of Mahboula esparto (*Lygeum spartum*) in the entire territory of Tunisia, which had been made effective January 23, 1945, by an order of January 13, to give the fields a rest period, was removed by an order of April 27, 1945, published in the Journal Officiel Tunisien of May 4.

[See FOREIGN COMMERCE WEEKLY of September 22, 1945, for previous announcement.]

Straw and Hay: Stocks Blocked and Circulation Regulated in Tunisia.—All stocks of straw and natural or artificial hay of any kind in Tunisia were blocked in the hands of producers or holders, effective May 1, 1945, by an order of April 16, 1945, published in the Journal Officiel Tunisien of May 4.

Products thus blocked were to be permitted to circulate only if accompanied by a permit issued for this purpose by persons authorized by the Director of General Economy.

Tariffs and Trade Controls

Alcohol: Price-Equalization Tax Established on Stocks in Algeria.—A price-equalization tax of 6,000 francs per hectoliter of pure alcohol was established in Algeria, French North Africa, on all alcohols (other than those exempted from consumption tax) held by merchants or in warehouses on April 15, 1945, by an order of April 9, 1945, published in the Journal Officiel of Algeria on April 17.

Matches: Price-Equalization Tax Established on Deliveries by Algerian Manufacturers.—A price-equalization tax was established in Algeria, effective April 15, 1945, on matches delivered by Algerian manufacturers for sale, by an order of April 7, 1945, published in the Journal Officiel of Algeria on April 17.

This tax was fixed at 0.17 franc per box or packet of 60 matches; 0.34 franc per box or packet of 61 to 120 matches; and 0.17 franc per fraction of 60 matches for boxes or packets containing more than 120 matches.

Algerian Leaf Tobacco of 1943 and Previous Crops: Price-Equalization Tax Established.—A price-equalization tax was established in Algeria on leaf tobacco of the 1943 and previous crops held in stock by the Manufactures Algeriennes on April 15, 1945, by an order of April 9, 1945, published in the Journal Officiel of Algeria on April 20.

This tax, which is collected from manufacturers in Algeria, was fixed as follows, in francs per 100 kilograms: Smoking tobacco, from Bone 600, from other regions 650; chewing tobacco and snuff, from Soufi 2,200, from Chergui 700, from Berzili 500.

Tobacco Products: Price-Equalization Taxes on Deliveries by Algerian Manufacturers Revised.—Effective April 15, 1945, price-equalization taxes collected from Algerian manufacturers on tobacco products delivered for sale were revised by an order of April 7, 1945, published in the Journal Officiel of Algeria on April 17.

The new rates are as follows, in francs per kilogram: Cigarettes, ordinary, 45, American style, 40, English style, 20; smoking tobacco, 50; cigars, 95; chewing tobacco and snuff, exempt.

Products Necessary for Agriculture: Special Tax Established to Cover Expenses of Liquidating Trade Committee.—A special tax of 2 percent ad valorem on imports of specified equipment and products for agriculture was established in Tunisia, effective June 1, 1945, for the account of the "Tunisian Supplies," to cover expenses incurred in the taking over by a public service of the State of the obligations incumbent on the dissolved Committee for Allotment of Products Necessary for Agriculture, by a decree of May 24, 1945, published in the Journal Officiel Tunisien of May 29.

The equipment and products subject to this tax include specified fertilizers, seed, oil cakes, insecticides, agricultural machines and apparatus, tools and metal articles for farm use.

[See FOREIGN COMMERCE WEEKLY of April 22, 1944, for a previous list of products subject to similar taxes.]

Iceland

Exchange and Finance

Exchange of Goods Arranged With Finland.—An agreement between Finland and Iceland, intended to facilitate the exchange of goods between the two countries, was concluded on December 4, 1945, according to a report of December 7 from the United States Legation at Reykjavik.

By the terms of the agreement both Governments agree to issue the required export and import licenses for the commodities specified, but imports will be subject, in each country, to price and quality examination. Payments in each direction will be made in United States dollars.

Finland intends to buy cod-liver oil, salted herring, frozen-fish fillets, and wool from Iceland, and Iceland expects to buy barrel staves, newsprint, wrapping paper, miscellaneous paper products, matches, wooden implements and utensils, unassembled furniture, athletic equipment, and grass seed from Finland. The Icelandic Government, upon special request from the Finnish Government, may grant postponement of payments for herring and wool.

India

Tariffs and Trade Controls

Government of India Purchasing Organization Established in London.—On November 5, 1945, an India Supply Commission was established in London to take over the duties formerly performed by

Develop Vast Wealth of French West Africa, Urges Governor Cournarie

Urging that the vast richness of French West Africa be developed as extensively as possible, Pierre Cournarie, the Governor General, at a recent press conference in Paris reported on his territory's contribution to the war effort. French West Africa advanced a loan of 100,000,000 francs to France for the pursuit of the war, a supplementary credit of 260,000,000 francs for the reconstruction, and sent much-needed manpower to to the mother country.

While considerable capital will be needed to convert the latent wealth of French West Africa into material profit, the value of such investment is indicated by exports of 300,000 tons in 1944 and 288,000 tons in 1945, most of which went to France and North Africa.

the Economic and Overseas Department of the India Office. The new commission is charged with the registration, coordination, and processing of all import licenses, the sponsorship of shipments, the programing and progressing of requirements of machinery, plant, equipment, and other civil requirements.

Restrictions on Trade with Liberated Europe Relaxed.—An unofficial note published by the Bureau of Public Information of the Government of India on November 8, 1945, revealed that the question of allowing exports from India to most liberated countries of Europe was then under consideration. Private trade, at that time, was permitted with France, Belgium, Luxembourg, Greece, Corsica, Italian and French oversea territories in Africa, all subject to export-, import-, and exchange-control regulations. Later in November trading with Italy, Finland, and Denmark on private account was also authorized. Business correspondence, provided it did not authorize supplying or obtaining goods to or from these countries, is permitted with Bulgaria, Rumania, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania.

On November 23, 1945, the Chief Controller of Imports, Government of India, was quoted as having said that the Government had decided to permit imports from the liberated countries of Europe on a fairly free basis even though their currencies are outside the sterling bloc. In view of the large amounts of materials which these countries are anxious to buy he anticipated little difficulty in obtaining required amounts of the currencies of the countries concerned to pay for imports.

New Zealand

Tariffs and Trade Controls

Prunes: Licenses to Import from United States.—The New Zealand Customs Department has announced that licenses to import prunes from the United States in 1946 may be granted to the extent of 110 percent of 1945 licenses for such goods.

Greece's Industrial Rehabilitation Aided by UNRRA

For Greece's metallurgical industry UNRRA has delivered about 2,000 tons of nonferrous metals and more than 1,000 tons of tools. Other industrial supplies include 10,000 tons of oil seeds for processing and large quantities of jute, hemp, rubber, leather belting, asbestos, and welding rods.

With the arrival of some 10,000 tons of chemical supplies and a small part of the woodworking machinery programmed, a considerable number of basic industries have been able to get into operation, while 11,000 tons of raw cotton and wool from UNRRA will keep the textile industry going full blast.

The prospect of delivering substantial quantities of pig iron and steel will further revive the warstagnant industries of Greece, says the Monthly UNRRA Review.

Panama

Transport and Communication

Reopening of Paitilla Field for Civil Aviation.—Paitilla Field Airport in Panama was reopened to civil aviation on December 14, 1945. It had been closed to civil aviation since December 1941.

Although the Panamanian Government has made no public announcement concerning the use of the airport, the National Aviation School has been authorized to use the field's facilities and is now offering a course of aviation instruction for civilians.

At present the school's equipment consists of 9 planes of the type used by the U. S. Army for training purposes. Six of the planes are for beginners. The other 3, which are for the training of advanced students, were flown from the United States, arriving at Paitilla Field on December 12. The school plans to have a total of 16 planes for beginners and advanced students.

Paraguay

Tariffs and Trade Controls

Temporary Reduction of Import Duty and Exemption from Customs Surtax On a Wide Range of Products Extended Through 1946.—The reduction of duty and exemption from the surtax on imports of various products into Paraguay, originally applied temporarily in 1941 and extended from year to year, has been extended through December 31, 1946, by Decree-Law No. 11,070, dated November 29, 1945.

[For previous announcement on this subject, see FOREIGN COMMERCE WEEKLY of June 9, 1945.]

Sweden

Transport and Communication

Through United States Air-Mail Service to Denmark and Sweden.—The inauguration of through air-mail service from New York, N. Y., to Denmark and Sweden on or about February 1, 1946, by the American Overseas Airlines, Inc., was announced in the Postal Bulletin, Washington, D. C., on January 24, 1946.

Uruguay

Tariffs and Trade Controls

Rayon Cloth for Use in the Manufacture of Tires: Temporarily Included in the Raw-Materials Section of Customs Tariff at Lower Duty.—Rayon cloth for use in the manufacture of tires is included in the raw materials section of the Uruguayan customs tariff until the Uruguayan industry begins to manufacture this product, at a rate of duty including surtax reduced from 52 percent to 9 percent of a fixed official valuation of 2.73 pesos per kilogram, by a resolution dated January 4, 1946, published in the Diario Oficial of January 16, 1946. This cloth is also exempted from the 50 percent increase of duty established by decree of July 21, 1942.

[For announcement of decrees of July 21, 1942, see FOREIGN COMMERCE WEEKLY of August 29, 1942.]

Diesel and Fuel Oil: Import Quotas Fixed for First Half of 1946.—Import quotas of 10,000 tons of Diesel oil and 52,000 tons of fuel oil have been set for the first semester of 1946 in Uruguay, according to a decree dated January 11, 1946, and published in the Diario Oficial of January 18, 1946.

The fuel oil and Diesel oil imported under the above quotas are exempt respectively from the 0.0015 peso per kilogram and 0.015 per kilogram surcharges established on May 19, 1939.

[For announcement of quotas of fuel and Diesel oil for the last half of 1945, see FOREIGN COMMERCE WEEKLY of September 15, 1945.]

Jerked Beef Prepared in 1945 Freed From Trade Restrictions.—All jerked beef prepared in 1945 in Uruguay was declared free from trade restrictions, according to a decree dated December 31, 1945, published in the Diario Oficial of January 9, 1946.

In accordance with this new policy on jerked beef, one decree dated September 25, 1945, which set up an 800-ton quota of jerked beef to be exported to Cuba, and another dated October 30, 1945, which authorized exportation of jerked beef by certain specified companies, were cancelled.

[For announcement of decrees dated September 25, 1945, and October 30, 1945, see FOREIGN COMMERCE WEEKLY of November 24, 1945, and January 5, 1946, respectively.]

Venezuela

Tariffs and Trade Controls

Butter: Importation Made Subject to Import License.—A resolution of the

(Continued on p. 38)

Transportation School To Open in Paris

Recognition of transportation as a science and a business has resulted in the establishment of a School of Transportation in Paris, France. Soon to be opened, the new institution is a branch of the National School of Economic and Social Organization.

Courses, which are open to both French and foreign students, will prepare trainees for careers in transportation with theoretical and practical knowledge of its various branches. The 2-year courses include political economy, commercial and technical development, transportation laws, and customs regulations.

News by COMMODITIES

Beverages

Swiss Wines of High Quality

Reports indicate that the production of Swiss wines in 1945 will rival the two banner years of 1911 and 1922, inasmuch as the white wines have attained 92 and the red wines 107 degrees Oechslé. It is on the basis of Oechslé tests, which determine the amount of sugar in the unfermented juice of the grapes, that the quality of the wine is determined. Inasmuch as the average for white wines is from 68 to 72 degrees Oechslé and for red wines 80 to 82, the 1945 wines, with their high sugar content, are outstanding.

Although the quality of the 1945 wines is superior, the quantity is not above average, owing to damage from frost and hail storms in May 1945. Figures compiled in mid-November indicated that about 15,059,400 gallons of wine would be produced in 1945, as compared with 19,727,629 gallons in 1943, the last year for which official viniculture figures are available.

Chemicals

Australian Production of Acetylene Black

Under an arrangement with a Canadian chemical concern, an Australian company will erect a plant in Australia to produce acetylene black, according to a foreign chemical journal. The plant and the process to be used are identical with those of the Canadian company. Production was scheduled to commence at the end of 1945, and is expected to be sufficient to meet the needs of the Commonwealth.

Sulfur Imports, Brazil

Brazil's imports of sulfur during January-August 1945 amounted to 15,796 metric tons, valued at 15,765,000 cruzeiros (approximately $788,250), according to statistics of the Ministry of Finance. The United States supplied 15,573 tons.

Sodium Nitrate for Egypt's Wheat Crop

Egypt's 1945–46 wheat crop has been allocated 150,154 metric tons of sodium nitrate by the Joint Anglo-American-Egyptian Fertilizer Control Committee. This amount is almost the entire quantity for winter crops, inasmuch as barley and flax receive none, and vegetables only a few thousand tons. The same quantity was allocated for the 1944–45 wheat crop, but during that period only about 125,000 tons were actually distributed to growers.

Output of French Chemical Plants

Even though larger supplies of coal were available to the chemical industries in the northern and Pas de Calais regions of France during October, the low output of coke forced suspension of operations at the Auby fertilizer plant at Fouchy and the cutting down of production at other plants in the Lille area, according to a foreign chemical publication.

Production of nitrogen in the northern region reached 5,545 metric tons in October, compared with an average monthly production of 10,440 tons in 1938. Sulfuric-acid output during the month was about 8,000 tons, whereas in 1938 the monthly average for the region was approximately 25,000 tons.

Sodium sulfide output in the area in October totaled 185 tons, compared with a monthly average of 241 tons in 1938. Calcium carbide production was 771 tons, or slightly more than 80 percent of the 1938 monthly average of 929 tons. Because of the shortage of electricity, the output of calcium carbide for the whole of France is reported to have decreased to 7,000 tons in October, compared with 12,500 tons in September.

The production of chlorine in the Pas de Calais area in October amounted to about 2,300 tons, whereas the monthly average in 1938 was 3,050 tons. Some chlorine plants are reported to be in a critical position because of the shortage of raw materials.

Potash Production, France

Production at Alsatian potash mines increased to 46,000 metric tons in July 1945, advanced to 90,000 tons in August, and to 115,000 tons in September, according to the foreign press.

The program for 1945–46 calls for an output of 440,000 tons of potash, 90,000 tons of which are available from stocks at the mines, and 350,000 tons the amount to be produced during the 12 months. France and the colonies will receive 280,000 tons and the remaining 160,000 will be exported to foreign countries, it is stated. Shipments of potash from April through September 1945 amounted to 86,000 tons, 64,000 going to France and the colonies and 22,000 going abroad.

The manufacture of potassium chloride has been resumed. Annual prewar output was about 800,000 tons (50 percent K_2O); present production is approximately 1,500 tons daily.

Potassium-Chlorate Production, India

Potassium chlorate is now being produced in India by a chemical company at Mettur Dam, according to the foreign press. The method used involves the conversion of calcium chlorate obtained from the absorption of chlorine in lime slurry.

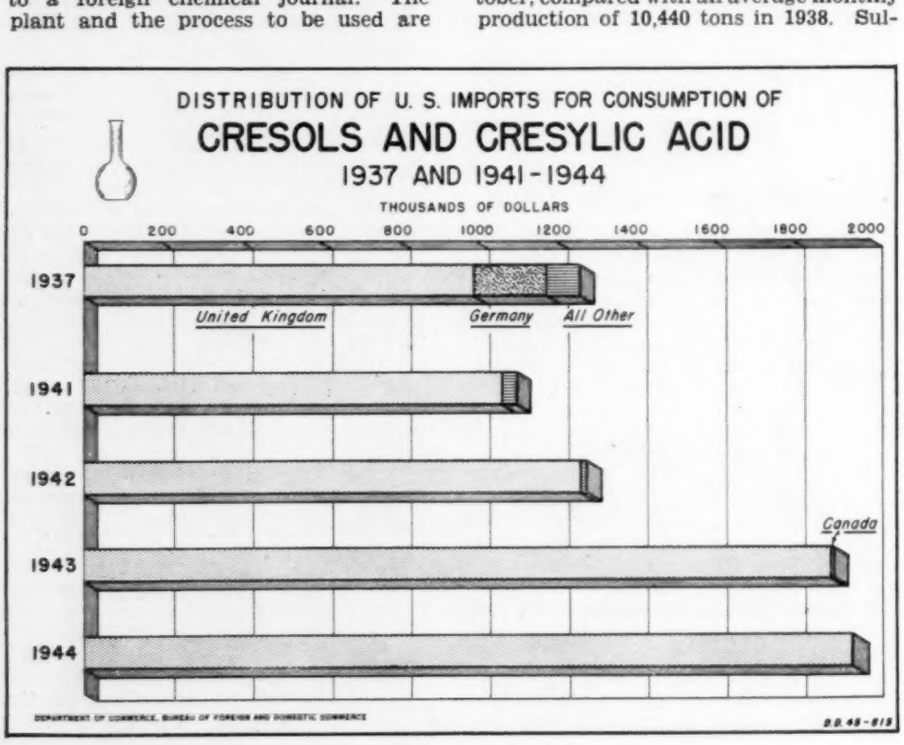
Pyrethrum Exports, Tanganyika

Tanganyika's exports of pyrethrum during August 1945 amounted to 908 hundredweight, valued at £6,297 ($25,471). The United Kingdom was the principal destination.

Fertilizer Manufacture, Palestine

The Palestine Potash Co. has extended its activities in two directions, the manufacture of its products into mixed fertilizers and the development of its petroleum interests, according to a foreign chemical publication.

A fertilizer company is being established with an authorized capital of



£P500,000, of which £P250,000 has been paid. Plans call for the erection of a sulfuric-acid plant, the third such plant planned for Palestine.

Coal and Fuel Gases

Coal Mining, Nova Scotia, Canada

It is believed that the production of coal in Nova Scotia, Canada, during the fourth quarter of 1945 increased somewhat over the third quarter, but total production for the year is thought to be about 500,000 tons less than in 1944. Figures issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics show the production of bituminous coal during the first 9 months of the year as 3,815,736 short tons compared with an output during the corresponding period of 1944 of 4,341,651 short tons. A lack of skilled workers was cited as an important contributing factor in the decrease.

The coal-mining picture in Nova Scotia is not particularly bright, according to reports. Of the total Canadian coal-production, Nova Scotia contributed only about 30 percent, although more than half of the 24,422 men employed in Canadian collieries as of September 1945 were working in Nova Scotia mines. Comparative production figures for Nova Scotia and Alberta for September 1945 show that Nova Scotia produces 21.8 tons per man per month, whereas Alberta produces 71.1 tons per man each month. Lack of up-to-date equipment is regarded as the principal reason for the difference.

Switzerland's Coal Imports

Imports of coal into Switzerland increased from 7,510 tons in September to 29,280 tons in October, the Swiss press reports. October imports included 10,339 tons from the United States, 8,928 tons from Great Britain, 7,098 tons from France, and 2,915 tons from Belgium.

Gas Consumption, Switzerland

Householders in Switzerland were allowed a larger ration of gas beginning October 1, 1945, according to the Swiss press. The allotment is still on the basis of the number of persons in the family. A family of three, for instance, who under the rationing schedule of February 15, 1945, received 13 cubic meters of gas a month was entitled to 18 meters by the new schedule; a family of eight had its ration increased from 31 cubic meters to 38 cubic meters.

Construction

Manufacture of Prefabricated Cabins, Saskatchewan, Canada

Prefabricated two-room cabins are being manufactured by a wooden-box factory at Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada, reports a foreign publication. These cabins will help alleviate the acute housing shortage. Production of three-room cabins, costing approximately $995 (Canadian currency) each, is expected to be started soon.

Czechoslovakia's Gablonz-Ware Industry Is Active Again

In prewar days Jablonec (or Gablonz), a city of 35,000 people in the so-called "Sudeten" region of Czechoslovakia, did an impressive export business in manufactured goods—comprising glass, imitation colored stones, paste diamonds, made-up costume jewelry, beads, celluloid novelties, cut and uncut crystal glass and hollow ware. In its best years, between 1926 and 1928, the city exported an estimated $45,000,000 worth of manufactured goods. The volume of Jablonec's export business is especially striking when compared with the value of total United States imports from Czechoslovakia in 1938, which was $39,000,000—less than the total export trade of this one community with all customers.

Jablonec, Turnov, and the surrounding district, for six recent years, were "German territory," with an estimated 97 percent German-speaking population. Now, a population shift is going on constantly here, as in the rest of the "Sudeten" area, resulting in an increase in the Czech and a decrease in the German population. The Czechoslovak Government has proclaimed, however, that 300,000 German Czechs will be permitted to remain. And in this group it has been agreed that all the technically trained workmen needed by the Jablonec jewelry and glass industries and the Carlsbad porcelain industry will be left to man the plants. The production capacity of the Jablonec plants is intact, and no appreciable lessening of production in the future is likely to result from lack of trained workmen. A check of Jablonec revealed that the Germans who had gone were from categories other than that of highly skilled factory workers.

Estimates of future production center about 150 percent of 1938 production for the total of all Jablonec goods. In some parts of the industry, especially in cut crystal and jewelry, a favorable market should bring out a production of 200 percent of 1938.

The market in 1938 did not call for full production from all parts of the Jablonec industries, a great deal of the activities of which are carried on in the homes. Actual production at any time depends on the market and, consequently, is not an indication of the maximum hours that producers would work for a maximum incentive.

Should production in Jablonec's best year to date be considered a base of 100, the community's future production in a favorable market may be placed at 133. This increase over the best production of past years, the producers explain, would be attributable to improved machinery.

Some substantial United States purchases already had occurred late in 1945, and others were under negotiation. New designs had been prepared for United States importers, and they were in process of production as early as last September. Details of payment, customs duties, consular invoices, export permits, credit and collection, and transportation of merchandise had still to be worked out, but Jablonec manufacturers seemed to have confidence in United States importers and continued to plan business with them.

Building Activity, Reykjavik, Iceland

Some relief for the acute housing shortage in Reykjavik, Iceland, was in sight at the end of the third quarter of 1945. Apartment units under construction totaled 758, and the city council had approved the construction of another 84 units. Dwelling units completed during 1944 totaled 339. In addition, Sweden was expected to send 100 prefabricated timber houses.

Plans for building a new hotel were announced by a group of hotel and restaurant owners. The project still is in the paper stage, and steps will have to be taken to attract the necessary capital funds before proceeding further. Cost of the building and equipment is estimated at between $2,000,000 and $3,000,000.

Hotel Construction, Panama

The President of the Republic of Panama has requested that the Executive Branch be authorized to enter into contracts for the construction of hotels in the interior of that country, according to the Panamanian press of November 1945. Contracts would be drawn up with private companies and individuals, and would not exceed a total of $2,000,000. Additional hotels in the interior are expected to aid in developing the tourist trade.

Sweden's Exports of Wooden Houses

Exports of wooden houses from Sweden have increased during recent months, says a European trade journal. The total number sold is between 7,000 and 8,000, including 5,000 houses earmarked for the United Kingdom, and 2,000 for France.

Housing Shortage Acute in France

Destruction of buildings in Rouen, France, has been extensive. Official figures state that of the 17,750 buildings in the city, 2,420 have been completely destroyed and 3,500 have been partly destroyed. Estimates indicate that more than 20,000 families are at present without adequate housing accommodations. In addition, many former residents who sought temporary shelter elsewhere when their homes were destroyed are anxious to return to the city as soon as housing space is available.

A few months ago an inspection of the quarters occupied by families living under makeshift conditions revealed overcrowding, inadequate sanitation facilities, and insufficient repairs to buildings. For example, families of four or more members were found living in one small room in a cellar where there was poor ventilation and little natural light.

Construction has been completed of a block of dwellings, consisting of 14 row

Sweden's New Machine for the Superior Processing of Peat

Successful operation is reported for a new machine for the treatment of peat that has been in use since June 1945 on a peat field in a district of Uppland, Sweden. The machine, which weighs only 1 ton and is easily transported on the peatbeds, compacts and dries the peat, producing hard tubular sections that are not hygnoscopic and remain dry so that they can be transported, stored, and burned without crumbling.

After pulping the wet peat and mixing it to a uniform consistency, the machine presses the peat through a nozzle which forms it into tubular sections that are so firm that after drying in the sun for 3 or 4 days they can support another tier of drying tubes. Drying is accelerated by the tubular form, and after air drying for only 2 weeks the moisture content is reduced to 20 percent—at which time the peat can be used as fuel. Further storage under roof reduces the moisture content to 15 percent, and it is claimed that the peat tubes after drying a full summer season have a thermal content of 4,000 calories. The cost of the peat is reported to be about the same as for peat harvested during wartime, which was 35 Swedish crowns per metric ton.

Advantages claimed for peat processed by this machine include resistance, without crumbling, to the moisture of air, rain, and snow, making possible the handling, storage, and transportation of these hard tubes with smooth surfaces practically in the same manner as coke. The peat tubes, with air circulating through and around them, burn well without the detrimental formation of tars and without waste through the grates due to crumbling.

Excellent results are reported in a trial use of this peat as fuel in a producer-gas generator—a purpose for which peat had to be carbonized to be used successfully in the past.

houses, each having two one-story apartments. Each apartment contains three or four rooms, bathroom, and a combination kitchen and dining room. The plan of selecting tenants will be based on the size of the family and economic status—the poorer and the larger families being given preference.

Stucco and cement have been used in the construction of the dwellings, and the walls and ceilings have been whitewashed because plaster was unavailable.

Additional projects of this type have been planned; these will be located near industrial plants for the convenience of the occupants who are employed at the plants, and also to decentralize the more densely populated areas.

Electrical Machinery and Equipment

Brazilian Imports

Electrical machinery and apparatus imported into Brazil in the first 6 months of 1945 included 49 metric tons of telephone and telegraph apparatus, 8 tons of radiotelegraph apparatus, 566 tons of electric generators, 377 tons of electric motors, and 261 tons of electric-light carbons. The United States was the chief source of supply for these items.

New Factory Now Operating, U. K.

Production of electrical appliances had begun in late 1945 at a new factory at South Shields, Durham, England, says a British trade journal. The factory is said to cover 50,000 square feet and is expected eventually to employ about 500 persons, mostly women.

Feathers and Furs

Canadian Exports and Imports

During the first 9 months of 1945, exports of furs from Canada were valued at $20,193,000, compared with exports valued at $20,867,000 during the first 9 months of 1944, according to an official Canadian publication. Practically all of these were undressed furs.

Imports of furs into Canada during these same two periods were valued at $12,254,000 and $7,023,000, respectively. (1 Canadian dollar=about $0.909 in United States currency.)

Fox-Pelt Production and Exports, Canada

Production of silver-fox pelts on Canadian fur farms is estimated by the Dominion Department of Agriculture at 174,029 pelts for 1945, compared with 144,989 in 1944. This total would comprise 120,600 standard silver (112,617), 13,049 platinum (6,115), 4,695 platinum silver (2,150), 28,320 white marked (18,088), 2,571 pearl platinum (1,714), and 4,794 not specified (4,305). (Figures in parentheses indicate comparable totals for 1944.)

Breeding stock on farms in 1945 is estimated at 96,330, compared with 89,116 in 1944. Exports of silver-fox pelts for 1945 are estimated at about 112,000 pelts, compared with 87,959 in 1944.

About 2,900 farms were engaged principally in fur production, and 4,350 more were producing as a secondary activity.

The Dominion Department of Agriculture estimates that 6 years will be required for production to reach the 1939 level.

The most recent information available on wild-life pelts relates to the 1943–44 season, during which the following wild-life fox pelts were taken: Blue, 384; cross, 40,829; red, 191,631; silver, 4,389; white, 30,332; and unspecified, 298.

Feather Exports, France

In September 1945 France exported 26 metric tons of feathers, valued at 2,032,000 francs. (In that month the French franc was equal to about $0.020189 in United States currency.)

Foodstuffs and Allied Products

Coffee

Production and Exports, Madagascar

Coffee production in Madagascar in 1945 is estimated at 28,000 metric tons, an increase of about 19 percent above the 1944 production of 23,500 tons.

Coffee, grown chiefly in the east coastal areas, is Madagascar's most valuable crop, and accounted for approximately 35 percent of the total value of exports in 1944.

It was estimated that more than 50,000 metric tons of coffee would be available for export in 1945. This figure includes 29,500 tons carried over from past years. Local consumption of coffee in 1945 is estimated at 6,500 metric tons.

Exports of coffee from Madagascar in 1938 totaled 41,204.1 metric tons, practically all of which went to France. During the occupation of the British in 1943, the bulk of the exports, which totaled 12,369 tons, went to England where supplies were needed for troops. For the same reason small stocks were sent to Australia and New Zealand in 1943. Of the 45,339.6 metric tons exported in 1944, England obtained 32,313.2 tons, and appreciable amounts went to Algeria, Tunisia, Syria, Union of South Africa, and Egypt for civilian as well as for military consumption.

The reason for the increase in exports, as compared with 1943, was that in 1944 Madagascar exported stocks held over from 1941 and 1942, as well as some stocks produced in 1943. The island was under blockade during 1941 and 1942, the period in which the Vichy government was in control, thereby eliminating all possibilities of export.

The blockade was lifted in January 1943, and shipping gradually increased; nevertheless shipping space for export of bulk commodities such as coffee, although improved since 1943 has been inadequate.

Stocks on hand September 30, 1945, are estimated at 35,000 metric tons. Of this amount, about 15,000 metric tons belong mainly to the crop produced in 1944. The remaining 20,000 tons were harvested and cured in 1945.

Dairy Products

Increased Consumption, Union of South Africa

Consumption of butter and cheese in the Union of South Africa rose to new highs during the war. Butter consumption increased from the prewar average of 660,000 pounds a week to 1,250,000 pounds per week during the war, and was not rationed. The prewar consumption

of cheese which averaged 200,000 pounds a week was doubled during the war.

Butter and cheese production increased in the first 3 years of the war, but not nearly so much as did consumption. The Union's previous large export surplus of as much as 15,000,000 pounds was absorbed locally as a result. The last two dairying seasons have been unfavorable, and because feedstuffs were short there was no possibility of increasing production by more intensive feeding. During the past season butter production in the Union and in South-West Africa was less than prewar output, whereas the consumption demand was nearly double the prewar figure, making rationing necessary during the entire season.

Dairy production in the Union is highly seasonal, and the summer butter and cheese surplus is stored for the winter when production always falls short of demand. A surplus stock of only 6,000,000 pounds of butter at the peak season in 1945, compared with a 7,800,000-pound surplus in 1944, has aggravated the current shortage. Weekly butter production in November 1945 was down to 430,000 pounds compared with the average of 720,000 pounds during the corresponding period in 1944.

Although the 1945 cheese production was also lower than in 1944, stocks were better and the supply position not so acute. Steps have been taken to divert some cheese-milk to condensories because condensed-milk supplies are short.

Fresh-milk supplies also have decreased because of the drought and feed shortage, but they have been maintained better than those of manufactured produce. This is in accordance with the Government policy to encourage consumption of fluid milk.

Fruits and Vegetables

Decrease in Fruit and Vegetable Pack, Canada

The Canadian pack of fruits and vegetables was below normal in 1945, according to the Canadian Department of Agriculture. This was attributed to weather conditions which handicapped both the seeding and harvesting of crops that are largely canned. The pack of corn, beans, peas, tomatoes, tomato juice, and various fruits was substantially less in 1945 than in 1944.

Estimates made by the Department place the 1945 pack of beans (green or wax) at 900,000 cases, 335,000 below that of 1944. Only 900,000 cases of corn were canned, 991,000 less than 1944, and 400,000 cases below the 5-year average of 1940–44. Canned peas at 2,900,000 cases in 1945 were down 700,000 cases in comparison with 1944, but were 100,000 cases above the 5-year average.

The drop in canned tomatoes in 1945 was substantial. The pack amounted to only 1,300,000 cases, which was 1,982,000 cases less than in 1944. Other tomato products such as pulp, puree, paste, and catsup were in lower supply than in 1944.

The report concerning canned fruit in 1945 is no better than that of vegetables. Only 36,000 cases of apricots were canned, 58,000 cases less than the 1944 pack. The cherry crop in 1945 was a failure in eastern Canada, but was good in British Columbia; the total pack in 1945 was 40,000 cases, 66,000 cases less than in 1944.

The peach pack turned out better than expected, although it was 69,000 cases below that of 1944. The total 1944 pack amounted to 619,000 cases and the 1945 pack to 550,000 cases. The crop of pears was poor, and only 320,000 cases were canned or about half of the 1944 quantity. Plums were a failure in Ontario, but good in British Columbia. The 1945 plum pack of 260,000 cases was 48,000 cases below the 1944 figure.

Cuban Exports

Approximately 2,600,000 pounds of fresh vegetables were shipped from Cuba in December 1945, as compared with only about 200,000 pounds in December 1944. The small shipments at the end of 1944 were attributed to the hurricane. Shipments in December 1945, however, were only about one-fourth the average quantity exported during December in prewar years.

Tomatoes constituted 82 percent of the shipments during December 1945; but peppers, okra, frozen lima beans, cucumbers, squash, ginger root, yucca, and other minor vegetables were also exported in fair quantity.

Shipments of fresh fruits from Habana during December 1945 amounted to 1,900,000 pounds, of which all were fresh pineapple except 63,369 pounds of fresh coconuts and 11,078 pounds of papayas. Shipments of pineapples were relatively small, as compared with 2,500,000 pounds in November 1945 and 4,200,000 pounds in December 1944, because prices of pineapple in the New York Auction Market were lower during the month of December. Failure to obtain what they considered an adequate return for their product is reported to have caused growers to divert a part of the fruit, originally intended for export, into Cuban canning factories. Normally, Cuban canneries operate only during the peak pineapple harvest from April through June. Before the war, winter months were very quiet in the fruit-exporting business, but during the war years there was strong year-round demand in the United States for Cuban pineapple.

European countries, especially England and Sweden, continue to show interest in Cuban fresh fruits, but lack of refrigerated shipping facilities has so far prevented shipments.

Arrowroot Production, St. Vincent, B. W. I.

The 1945–46 arrowroot crop of St. Vincent, British West Indies, is expected to exceed that of 1944–45. Digging started in November 1945, with prospects for a good crop. Indications are that about 6,720,000 (30,000 barrels) of arrowroot starch will be harvested and processed by the end of the digging season in May 1946. The 1944–45 crop yielded about 4,928,000 pounds (22,000 barrels).

Labor difficulties have threatened in St. Vincent for some time and it is possible that these problems may prevent the harvesting of some of the crop. Planters are endeavoring to mechanize arrowroot digging in level areas and are experimenting with a track-laying tractor and a rotary digger imported from the United States for this purpose.

The following table shows production for the past seven crop years:

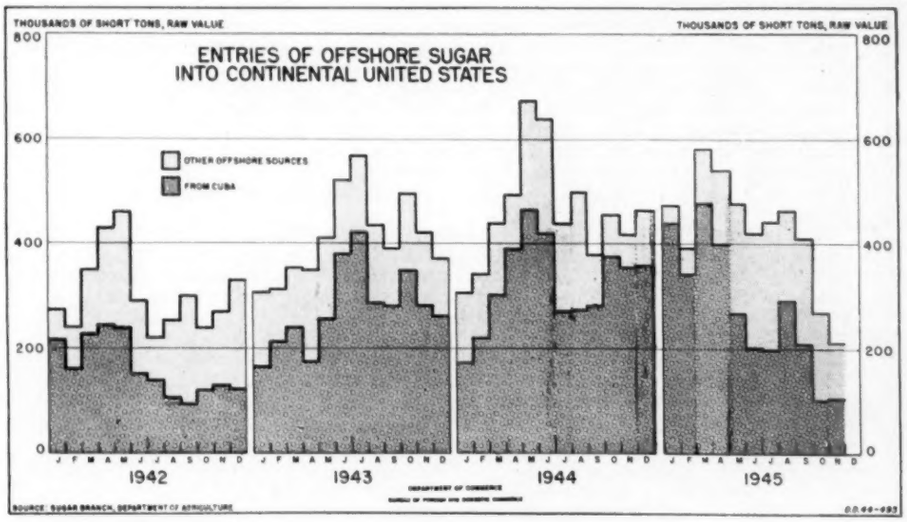
Crop year	*Production (in barrels)*
1938–39	39,554
1939–40	45,137
1940–41	45,067
1041–42	43,714
1942–43	32,739
1943–44	24,181
1944–45	22,000
1945–46 [1]	30,000

[1] Estimated figure.

Production has been declining steadily since 1940–41. This has been attributed to various causes, chief of which is the labor shortage.

Vegetable Exports From Mexico

From the beginning of the shipping season on November 9, 1945, to December 1, 1945, 145 carloads of fresh vegetables from the west coast of Mexico passed through the port of Nogales to the United States and Canada. Exports of fresh vegetables in the corresponding period



of 1944 totaled 154 carloads, and in 1943, 96 carloads. Shipments consisted of tomatoes and green peppers, with tomatoes accounting for 125, 142, and 87 carloads, respectively.

The quality of tomatoes in the 1945–46 season is reported to be much better than at the beginning of the 1944–45 season. The present high quality is attributed partly to the efforts of the growers to raise their standards and partly to the fact that many businessmen who speculated in the vegetable industry in recent years have ceased their operations because of the heavy losses they suffered during the last vegetable season.

Grains and Products

Cereal Production and Stocks, Belgium

As a result of decreased plantings and lower yields, Belgian 1945 cereals production was substantially less than in 1944, or in the average prewar year. The following table shows production in 1938, 1939, 1944, and 1945:

[In metric tons]

Crop	1938	1939	1944	1945
Wheat	547,874	348,952	505,365	309,170
Rye	385,033	349,398	313,927	166,586
Spelt	22,847	16,191	15,928	10,397
Meslin	4,094	3,764	8,936	4,248
Barley, winter	71,473	4,409	96,775	48,418
Barley, summer	17,757	46,700	69,189	65,077
Oats	621,062	724,235	305,037	369,414
Buckwheat	840	771	626	883
Total	1,670,980	1,494,420	1,315,783	974,193

Commercialization of the domestic crop proceeded slowly in 1945. Through November 10, total mobilization amounted to 19,985 tons of wheat, 2,784 tons of rye, and 9,211 tons of barley. These totals are far below the totals at the corresponding date of previous years. One reason is that much of the crop will be diverted by the farmers for feed.

During the first 10 months of 1945, 1,215,990 metric tons of cereals were imported into Belgium for civilian use. This amounts to about two-thirds of the prewar level.

On November 11, 1945, the grain-storage position at Antwerp was as follows:

[Net long tons]

Account	Potash plant	Silos	Barges	Depots	Total
British Army	.....	.....	9,410	.....	9,410
Belgian Government	6,621	22,048	153,613	4,847	187,129
Total	6,621	22,048	163,023	4,847	196,539

In addition to the above stocks, on November 11, 1945, the Belgian Government had 50,733 tons of grains in barges en route to mills. Besides these supplies, Belgian stocks included quantities in mills, and amounts held by farmers.

The stocks held by mills as of November 10, 1945, amounted to 80,511 metric tons of flour equivalent, excluding stocks held for the account of the military forces. The 80,511-ton total included 14,423 tons of legal (80 percent) flour, 2,922 tons of legal flour equivalent of domestic wheat, 62,351 tons of legal flour equivalent of imported wheat, and small amounts of soybean flour and French wheat.

Since the storage space of the flour mills is completely occupied, the Ministry of Food Supply is now attempting to arrange with the mills to store about 40,000 tons of wheat outside the mills. This would release a certain number of barges for use in transporting grain and coal. Another measure which will be taken in the near future is the unloading of barges of wheat into the potash plant. Arrangements have been made to use only half of the potash plant for storage of potash; this will allow the storage of 48,000 tons of wheat in the other half of the plant. Also measures are being taken to grant priorities for the rebuilding of the silo at Antwerp which was damaged by a flying bomb; this will provide 20,000 tons additional storage space.

Belgian flour mills are authorized to mill flour both at 75 and 80 percent extraction. The official extraction rate for flour for bread remains at 80 percent; the 75 percent extraction flour is used only for spaghetti and such products.

In November 1945, the bread ration was at the rate of 450 grams per day. At 80 percent extraction, 90,000 metric tons of wheat per month were required to meet the ration.

Imports to Relieve Shortages in Cuba

To avert a threatened shortage of feedstuffs, the Cuban Government on December 31, 1945, waived duties on imported feedstuffs for the first half of 1946, and the Sub-Director of the Cuban Office of Price Stabilization and Supply has inquired concerning the possibility of purchasing 4,000 to 8,000 tons of high-protein feeds, such as oil meals, from the United States. A previous decree exempting feedstuffs from import duties, which was in effect from March 23 through August 31, 1945, was of little aid in making feedstuffs available to Cuba, because of the scarcity of supplies elsewhere.

Cuba is facing a serious wheat-flour shortage unless imports are arranged promptly. A decree has been published under which the Cuban Government grants a subsidy of $2 per bag of 200 pounds on imports of American hard winter-wheat flour and $2.54 a bag on American hard spring-wheat flour, the maximum quantity to be imported under the decree being limited to 864,000 bags.

The Cuban Government has asked the American Embassy in Habana whether the flour can be supplied by the United States or whether it will be necessary to obtain Canadian flour or flour milled in bond in the United States.

Although Cuba has imported corn from the Dominican Republic, the United States, and Jamaica, only some 18,000,000 pounds have been received since July 18, 1945, when import duties on 30,000,000 pounds of foreign corn, later increased to 60,000,000 pounds were waived by decree. The domestic winter crop of corn is coming along fairly well, but it will not be sufficient to tide Cuba over until the next main harvest in August and September of 1946.

New-crop winter corn was selling at $3.25 per 100 pounds in the last part of 1945 but it was expected that by February the price would fall to $2.75 or $3. Dominican corn may be imported at $3.60, c. i. f. Habana. November–December 1945 prices of other feedstuffs follow: United States wheat, $2.45 a bushel, c. i. f. Habana; Canadian wheat, $2.20 a bushel, c. i. f. Habana; United States oats, $1.24 a bushel, c. i. f. Habana; domestic peanut meal, $3.25 per 100 pounds f. o. b. crushing plant.

Rice Production, Madagascar

Milled-rice production in Madagascar in 1945 is estimated at 437,500 net metric tons, an increase of about 9 percent over production in 1944. An increase of acre-

New Canadian Enterprise To Make Furniture for Export

Large-scale production of furniture for export to Great Britain is expected to begin early this year at Collingwood, Ontario, Canada, according to an announcement by the Premier of Ontario. Agreements were being negotiated late in 1945 between the British Board of Trade and an Ontario company—the final step in intergovernmental negotiations begun more than a year before—which has taken over the idle plant of an aircraft-manufacturing company. The plant covers an area of 65,000 square feet, all in a single one-story building; it is expected that 200 to 300 jobs will be provided, and the eventual employment of 2,000 persons is anticipated. Production aim reportedly will be 150,000 suites—divided equally among dining-room, bedroom, and living-room suites. The plant will manufacture for export only, it is said.

The territory surrounding Collingwood has considerable forest resources which it is believed can furnish suitable wood for the furniture. The new industry plans to use plywood and to make the furniture in semimanufactured units, to be assembled and decorated in Great Britain—the labor thus to be divided about equally between Canadian and British workers. It is claimed in some Ontario circles that under this arrangement British furniture manufacturers will be partially relieved of the pressure of urgent demand for articles of furniture to replace those lost by bombings and to furnish houses newly constructed.

The Federal Timber Controller of Canada and the Dominion Department of Reconstruction have approved the timber quota necessary to make the furniture.

age planted to rice in 1945 is responsible for the rise in production.

Rice is the staple food of Madagascar. It is estimated that approximately 95.5 percent of the 1945 production will be consumed locally. The remainder will be earmarked for export to France or French colonial possessions.

Rice stocks on hand as of August 31, 1945, were estimated at 22,500 net metric tons.

Low Yields From Grain Crops, Spain

The Spanish 1945 grain crop was one of the smallest in a number of years. Yields of wheat, barley, and oats amounted to less than half of the 1944 production. The rye yield also was low. The unprecedented drought during the 1945 crop year was the cause of the low yields.

Corn was the only one of Spain's five principal grain crops that showed an increase in 1945, and that was attributed to increased plantings.

The following unofficial estimates of the Spanish principal grain crops in 1944 and 1945 were obtained from the agricultural journal "Ceres" of Valladolid:

Item	1944	1945
	Metric tons	*Metric tons*
Wheat	3,134,500	1,530,600
Rye	827,200	478,030
Barley	1,586,000	723,500
Corn	598,100	653,000
Oats	553,300	256,870

Rice Production and Imports, Mexico

Production of rice in Mexico in 1945 is believed to have been about equal to that in 1944 which amounted to 118,409 metric tons of paddy. A small quantity of rice was imported in 1945.

Rice Cultivation, U. S. S. R.

Work on the Kzyl-Orda Dam in the U. S. S. R., which was interrupted during the war, has been resumed, says the Soviet press. The completion of this project will transform the valley of Syr-Darya into a highly cultivated area and make Kzyl-Orda Province the leading rice-growing district in the Union.

The irrigation system of the Kzyl-Orda Province has been steadily improving during the last 25 years, and, in line with this, the acreage under rice and the yield of rice per hectare (1 hectare=2.471 acres) has been increasing. Thus between 1930 and 1939 the area planted to rice was increased by 10,000 hectares.

During the war years the yield of rice in some regions was raised from 25 to 38 centners (1 centner=100 kilograms or about 220 pounds) per hectare by the construction of a number of canals on Syr-Darya. It is believed that with the completion of the Kzyl-Orda Dam project, which is scheduled for 1948, the acreage under rice will reach 50,000 hectares and the yield will be as much as 50 centners per hectare.

Nuts

Low Yields from Spain's 1945 Filbert Crop

Spain's 1945 filbert crop was one of the poorest since 1935, yielding only about 7,500 metric tons of the shelled nuts. In 1944 about 17,000 tons of shelled filberts were produced, 6,000 tons of which were exported. The nuts from the 1945 crop are reported to be somewhat larger and of better quality than those of the 1944 crop.

Decreased Yields From Turkey's Filbert and Walnut Crops

Estimates place Turkey's 1945 unshelled filbert crop at about 30,000 metric tons, a considerably lower figure than the estimated 48,000 tons harvested in 1944. Only a small carry-over from the 1944 crop was reported, whereas the carry-over from the 1943 crop was 5,000 tons. Frosts during the late spring and a plant disease which caused the nuts to fall before maturity are responsible for the short 1945 harvest. The quality of the crop, however, is said to be good. Diversion of filberts to oil-crushing has further reduced stocks.

Walnut crops in Türkey are reported to have declined during recent years. Estimates place the 1945 crop at 26,000 tons (unshelled), compared with an estimated 27,000 tons for 1944 and normal crops of from 32,000 to 34,000 tons. Only a small portion of such production is available for export, trade sources having reported about 600 tons of shelled walnuts from the 1945 crop were available for export in November.

Sugars and Products

Sugar Output Expected To Increase, Australia

Australian production of raw sugar in 1945–46 is estimated at between 620,000 and 630,000 long tons. Industrial troubles, coal shortages, and inadequate manpower depressed production of refined sugar in 1945 so that military and rationed civilian requirements were not met in full. In the latter part of the year civilian rations were reduced from 1 pound to one-half pound of refined sugar or 1 pound of raw sugar per person weekly in Victoria and New South Wales.

Because of a general improvement in the labor situation, sugar production in 1946–47 is expected to increase and a goal of 725,000 tons of raw sugar has been set. All sugar available for export has been bought by the British Ministry of Food for 2 years after the duration of the war. Exports in 1945–46 are expected to exceed the 104,000 tons exported in 1944–45, with continuation of civilian rationing and smaller military demands.

Chile's Imports of Sugar

Chile's imports of raw sugar during the first 9 months of 1945 accounted for 10.1 percent of the country's total imports and were valued at $11,217,000. Chilean raw-sugar imports, all originating in Peru, increased from 104,000 metric tons during the first 9 months of 1943 to 107,000 tons in the corresponding period of 1944, and further increased to 117,000 tons in 1945.

Efforts to Improve Sugar Industry, Cuba

Cuba is showing renewed interest in sugar research for the purpose of increasing efficiency and reducing cost of production to meet postwar competition in its industry. Two bills proposing to establish research institutions have been introduced into the Cuban Congress, the Sugar Technicians' Association has recommended an elaborate research plan, and the press has devoted considerable space to the subject.

In 1924 about 80 of Cuba's sugar mills combined to form the Sugar Club, which contracted with the Tropical Plant Research Foundation to establish a sugarcane research station in Cuba which operated until its funds were exhausted in 1932. The depression and low sugar

World Fertilizer Situation Critical

Serious shortages of commercial fertilizers for 1946 world food production and a continuing tight supply position was reported recently to the U. S. Department of Agriculture by the Combined Food Board.

Exclusive of needs in the Far East, which are large, the over-all world shortage of plant foods (nitrogen, phosphoric acid, potash) was estimated by the Committee on Fertilizers of the Food Board at approximately 1,000,000 short tons. Requirements for fertilizers in liberated countries since the end of the war intensified already existing shortages and have given rise to new problems in equitable distribution among claimant countries. Increased production resulting from reconversion of war plants from munitions, here and abroad, has not nearly equalled the increased requirements.

Two broad methods of meeting world fertilizer shortages were outlined: Raise production to the maximum and ship materials from surplus supply areas to the deficient areas—or reduce the general level of plant-food consumption in all countries. The Department of Agriculture stated that while a tight supply situation will exist in the United States this year, available supplies of plant food should be sufficient to maintain high-level food production.

Prospective supplies of fertilizer which should be available to American farmers for 1945–46 are as follows: Nitrogen, about the same total as a year ago, with substantially less Chilean nitrate of soda, but more domestic synthetic nitrogen. Total potash supply, about the same as last year, but with less in sulphate form. Phosphate supplies, somewhat more than a year ago, with the increase coming mainly in the form of ordinary superphosphates.

prices made it necessary for mills to cut expenses, and research was stopped. Since that time the only research has been small-scale experimentation by individual sugar mills, mostly on the subject of cane varieties.

A law imposing a tax on raw sugar and providing that half of the funds be used for construction of a national library and the other half for sugar research was passed by the Cuban Government in March 1941. Construction of the library was given priority, however, and since it will take 3 or 4 years longer to collect the money needed for the project, no part of the funds will be available for sugar research for some time. It was reported in December 1945 that one bill introduced in the Cuban Congress proposed that the law be modified to permit half of the money thus far collected for the library to be used for sugar research.

In January 1944 the Cuban cane growers and mill owners agreed to contribute $72,353 a year to the Sugar Research Foundation in the United States. Although this is not direct research on production in Cuba, it is a contribution toward sugar research in general and the development of new uses in Cuba's principal market.

Another bill before the Cuban Congress would create a research laboratory at a sugar mill which is already under the jurisdiction of the University of Habana. This bill proposes to provide funds from the profits to be derived from new products developed at the laboratory. The Minister of Agriculture and the President are proposing that a third of the revenue from the existing production tax on raw sugar be set aside for sugar research.

A plan has been suggested which would establish a Consolidation Fund with a levy of 2 percent of the total sales value of the sugar crop, the fund to be devoted to scientific investigation, pilot plants, experimental stations, fellowships for training students, prizes, foreign and domestic advertising, and expansion of the scope and work of the sugar associations and the Sugar Institute. This fund should yield about $6,000,000 a year during the proposed 5-year period.

Whatever means is selected to provide funds, the extensive interest being shown indicates that Cuba will make some provisions for more sugar research in the future.

Sugar-Beet Crop in Two Departments, France

Reports from the Department of Cote d'Or, France, indicate that the 1945 sugar-beet crop was a failure. Compared with the crop of a good season when 15 metric tons per hectare could be expected, the 1945 harvest was expected to average only about 1⅕ tons, or at best 1½ tons, per hectare.

The 1945 sugar-beet crop in the Department of Saone-et-Loire probably did not exceed 10,000 tons as compared with 50,000 tons in 1939. A refinery at Chalons-sur-Saone handling all the crop of the Saone-et-Loire area formerly manufactured about 6,250 tons of sugar annually; the 1945 production was estimated at only about 1,250 tons of sugar.

Sugar-Production, Guatemala

With sugar mills in full operation in most sections of Guatemala, plantation owners estimated early in January that white sugar from the current crop would amount to about 24,000 short tons of a total output of about 64,000 tons. Ordinarily about 40 percent of the sugar produced in Guatemala is white; the remainder is panela, a crude brown sugar. Panela production from the current crop is expected to amount to about 40,000 tons. About 80 percent of the panela is used for food and the rest in making alcoholic beverages.

Output of Sugar May Increase, Mauritius

With the reversion of agricultural areas from wartime crops to sugarcane, observers estimate that sugar production in Mauritius might reach about 300,000 long tons in 1946 if climatic conditions are favorable. The United Kingdom has purchased all the island's sugar production since 1937, after provision has been made for domestic consumption.

Output of sugar gradually increased from 316,000 tons in 1940 to 329,000 tons in 1942. In 1943, when some of the cane acreage was planted to other foodstuffs because of wartime conditions, only 308,000 tons of sugar were produced. Further decreases occurred in 1944 and 1945 when production dropped to 199,000 and 130,000 tons because of unfavorable weather, shortage of fertilizers, and labor difficulties. Domestic consumption of sugar amounted to only 20,000 tons in 1944.

Sugar-Beet Plantings and Yield, Netherlands

Only 18,491 hectares in the Netherlands were planted to sugar beets in 1945, compared with the 1939 total of 45,701 hectares, according to the Statistical Bulletin of the Central Bureau of Statistics. In 1943 (said to be a typical year during the occupation) 44,272 hectares were planted to sugar beets. The reduction in sugar-beet plantings in 1945 was caused by lack of fertilizers, inundation, and war operations.

The 1945 sugar-beet harvest has been estimated at about 410,000 metric tons of beets, which indicates a yield of less than 70,000 tons of sugar compared with about 250,000 tons in prewar years.

Two Grams of Radium Arrive in Sweden from America

A precious cargo, consisting of 2 grams of radium, valued at more than $50,000, recently arrived in Goteborg, Sweden, from New York on the *Danaholm*, of the Swedish America Mexico Line. This was the first consignment of radium received in Sweden from abroad since 1927.

Including these 2 grams, Sweden is now in possession of between 16 and 17 grams of radium. This supply is divided between Sweden's three main centers for radium treatment, in Stockholm, Goteborg, and Lund. Further imports from Canada and Beligum are expected.

The quantity just received had to be sent by boat, since no air line was willing to carry it, fearing that the radium might disturb the airplane instruments. It was contained in 20 glass tubes, each of 100 milligrams. These were enclosed in a brass cylinder, surrounded by lead sheeting. The entire package weighed 1,100 pounds. More than 1,000 tons of Canadian ore were needed to produce these 2 grams.

Iron and Steel

Situation in Switzerland

During the month of October 1945 Switzerland imported 17,560 tons of crude iron and steel, 5,940 tons of structural steel, and 850 tons of sheet iron, the Swiss press reports. The imports of crude iron and steel, which came almost exclusively from Belgium, represent a 13,570-ton increase from those of September.

All ration and other wartime controls over structural iron, sheet iron, grey cast iron, malleable cast iron, steel castings, stainless steel, and iron and steel used in reinforced concrete construction were removed by the Swiss Government early in November. Crude iron and steel will continue to be controlled until imports improve. The collection and surrender of scrap iron is still compulsory.

Leather and Related Products

Brazilian Imports

Brazilian imports of dressed hides and skins during the first 8 months of 1945 totaled 50 metric tons, according to records of the Brazilian Ministry of Finance. These imports were valued at 6,492,000 cruzeiros.

Manufacture of Footwear, France

Footwear production in France totaled 2,152,000 pairs during September, compared with 10,496,549 pairs during the first 6 months of 1945, reports a European trade journal. The ontput was distributed as follows: Men's shoes, 664,000 pairs (about 51 percent of the total manufactured during the corresponding month of 1938); women's shoes, 805,000 pairs (about 36 percent of the September 1938 total); children's shoes, 213,000 pairs (about 53 percent of the September 1938 total); and infants' shoes, 470,000 pairs. In addition, 1,565,000 pairs of slippers were manufactured during September, which represented approximately 28 percent of the output during September 1938.

Valonia Production for Tanning, Turkey

Supplies of Turkish valonia (used in tanning and dressing leather) for the 1945 crop season were expected to be sufficient to meet normal demand, and prices of the acorn cups remained high. The 1945 crop was estimated at 25,000 metric tons, compared with 30,000 tons during the preceding year. The drought and hot weather during much of the growing season, and the exceptionally cold weather early in the year which affected the buds, contributed to reducing the crop substantially.

Boot and Shoe Production, U. K.

Production of boots and shoes in the United Kingdom was at the annual rate of 97,200,000 pairs during September, which represented a slight decline from the annual rate during the first 6 months of 1945, reports an official British journal.

The monthly production of leather boots and shoes during the greater part of 1945 was between 6,800,000 pairs and 7,300,000 pairs, according to a statement made in November by the Parliamentary Secretary to the British Board of Trade, compared with the prewar monthly rate of approximately 11,000,000 pairs. It was hoped that the rate would rise to 8,000,000 pairs by June 1946, and 9,000,000 pairs by the end of the year.

Lumber and Products

Production Activity, Philippine Islands

Reports from the Philippine Bureau of Forestry indicate that applications for timber-cutting rights have been so numerous that they cover all sites on the Islands suitable for lumbering, except for heavily forested and practically unexplored areas in the Provinces of Isabela and Cagayan in the northeastern part of Luzon and the malarial areas of Palawan. Considerable interest has been manifested by servicemen of the United States who have expressed a desire to return to the Philippines after their war service is completed.

Despite this activity, increased output of forest products must await distribution of tools and equipment and the reestablishment of highway, railway, and sea transportation. In December lumber was still selling for seven times the normal price in Manila.

Of the 38 sawmills reported in operation as of December 1945, 9 were supplying civilian requirements. The other 29 installations were being operated by the United States Army, or for the account of the Army.

Machinery, Other Than Electrical

Brazilian Imports

Imports of farm machinery into Brazil in the first 6 months of 1945 were predominantly from the United States. Totals in each classification, with imports from the United States in parentheses, included 446 metric tons of plows and accessories (339 tons); 7 tons of threshers (5 tons); 10 tons of seed drills (6 tons); 285 tons of tractors (255 tons); and 205 tons of agricultural implements (176 tons).

Of 1,283 metric tons of textile machines imported into Brazil in the first 7 months of 1945, 1,103 tons of machines were imported from the United States.

Value and Sources of Imports, Palestine

Imports of industrial machines into Palestine from the United States were valued at £P28,950 in 1938 and £P316,166 in 1939, while imports from Germany amounted to £P108,348 in 1938 and £P33,526 in 1939, and from Czechoslovakia, £P2,387 and £P5,329, respectively.

Other machinery imports from the United States included welding machines and parts worth £P5,115 in 1938 and £P5,692 in 1939; pumping machines valued at £P7,280 and £P74,230; parts for machines totaling £P12,602 and £P16,854; and other machines and parts amounting to £P15,882 and £P62,208.

Machinery and parts imported from the United Kingdom in the first 6 months of 1945 had a value of £P94,746.

Reopening of the Annual Fair at Bordeaux

After a lapse of 5 years, the Bordeaux Fair Committee announces the reopening of the regular annual Bordeaux Fair—the twenty-fifth—on Sunday, June 23, 1946. The Fair will run for a fortnight, and participation by foreign exhibitors is very much desired by its sponsors.

The Fair Committee states that a good many advantages on the part of the Administration of the French Customs are offered to participants from other countries, details regarding which may be obtained from the U. S. Department of Commerce, or any of its Field Offices.

Medicinals and Crude Drugs

French Supply of Iodine

Iodine is almost unobtainable in France, according to reports from that country. Until 1938, all French iodine was procured from Brittany, where seaweed is particularly rich in the element. During the occupation, however, production declined because seaweed collectors were unable to work on the mined beaches. Since the liberation, the French Government has imported 40 tons of iodine from Chile.

Scarcity in Netherlands

Medicines, even simple remedies, are still very scarce in the Netherlands reports the Netherlands Information Bureau. The shortage affects 230 medicines, including penicillin which is not being imported as yet for civilian use.

Portuguese Market

Plans are being developed in Portugal for establishing additional plants for the manufacture of tincture of iodine, adhesive plaster, and for extracting vitamins A and D from tunny-fish (tuna) livers. Nevertheless, since Portugal lacks most of the essential raw materials needed for the manufacture of many medicinals, a large proportion of drugs and pharmaceuticals must be imported. Imports of medicines in 1943 amounted to 273,796 kilograms, having an approximate value of $1,599,122, compared with 259,313 kilograms valued at about $769,917, in 1939.

Sources of Vitamins, U. S. S. R.

With the completion of the charting of the fruit and nut forests in Southern Kirghizia, Soviet Russia, which cover an area of about 125,000 acres, the first step in tapping this huge natural reservoir of vitamins has been taken, reports the Soviet press. Walnut, apple, and alycha (a fruit of the sloe family) are raised in these regions.

The area was surveyed and studied in the past 2 years by more than 80 scientists comprising the southern Kirghizia expedition of the U. S. S. R. Academy of Science's council for the investigation of the country's productive forces. This expedition was organized in the summer of 1944 by Government order.

The vitamin-industry administration of the People's Commissariat of the Food Industry, in whose charge the area has been placed by the Government, has set up several State farms to collect the fruit and send it to factories for processing. During the war, a factory producing vitamin C from green walnuts was set up in Jalal-Abad, Ferghana Valley. The expedition has worked out a plan to establish plants to produce jams, compotes, and vitaminized fruit jelly powder. The group of scientists participating in the project has also demonstrated that vitamin C can be produced from walnut leaves.

A striking feature of the area under investigation is the great diversity of biological forms, the varieties of walnuts numbering about 80; of apples, about 100; and of alycha, about 60. The area was found to contain, in addition, vast growths of brier rose, including 2 newly discovered varieties with about 15 percent vitamin C instead of the 7 percent in other varieties.

Metals and Minerals

Output of Barytes; Silica Deposit Revealed, Nova Scotia, Canada

The production of barytes in Nova Scotia, Canada, increased during the fourth quarter of 1945, and it is believed that the output for the entire year totaled about 150,000 tons, or approximately 44,000 tons more than in 1944.

Tests made by a Canadian corporation on a silica-rock deposit in Yarmouth County indicate a tonnage large enough to supply eastern Canada for many years. According to the Nova Scotia Mines Minister, the belt has a thickness of 300 feet for a considerable distance and outcrops prominently on the coast between high and low tide for about 800 feet, afterward striking inland for a distance of several miles. It is reported that analyses made at the Nova Scotia Technical College show the deposit to be 99 percent silica.

Establishment of Cement Plant, Ceylon

Bids have been called for in connection with the erection of a cement plant in Ceylon. Its construction is one of the features of a program for the greater industrialization of that island. The new plant will be located in the Jaffna Peninsula and probably will cost approximately 8 500,000 rupees (1 rupee= $0.332). A sum of 50,000 rupees was appropriated in March 1945 to cover the expenses of an initial survey of the prospects for the industry made by an engineering firm in London.

Imports and Sale of Nonferrous Metals Switzerland

Imports of nonferrous metals into Switzerland during the month of October are reported by the Swiss press to have included 2,100 tons of crude copper, of which 1,996 tons came from the United States, 1,390 tons of bauxite, 773 tons of aluminum, 236 tons of soft lead, and 200 tons of zinc.

Beginning November 15, 1945, all wartime controls over the sale of aluminum, antimony, cadmium, chromium, cobalt, copper, magnesium, manganese, molybdenum, nickel, mercury, bismuth, and tungsten in Switzerland were lifted.

Motion Pictures and Equipment

Films in Czechoslovakia

A delegation representing French film producers arrived in Prague, Czechoslovakia, during October 1945, the Czechoslovak press reports. Their visit was stated to be for the purpose of negotiating for the filming of French motion pictures in a Prague studio.

It is also reported that producers in Czechoslovakia have signed a 5-year contract with French producers providing for the weekly exchange of news reels and documentary films as well as feature films. In addition, the purchase of 65 English films has been reported by the press.

Industry in U. K.

With the return of considerable studio space which had been requisitioned for war purposes, motion-picture producers in Great Britain anticipated soon to be able to resume a normal production schedule, according to reports from London in November 1945.

Approximately 40 percent of the requisitioned studio space had been restored to its owners between VE-day and November 1945, and it was expected that by the latter part of April 1946 about 90 percent would be returned to its owners. However, not all of the space will be immediately available for use. Some was damaged in the war and some needs to be modernized. The industry was also hampered by insufficient manpower. Efforts were being made to make all necessary repairs and to obtain the release of former employees from the services.

British equipment manufacturers are being encouraged to experiment in the production of improved types of equipment, but until all of the requisite items can be produced domestically, there will have to be a certain amount of imports. During the 9-month period ended November 1945 the importation of more than £70,000 worth of equipment was authorized, and it was believed that a further £100,000 worth probably would have to be secured within the next 2 years.

Prewar annual importation of United States motion-picture films was valued at £7,000,000. Since then imports have stepped up to approximately £20,000,000 each year. A revival of the domestic industry would serve, it is thought in Great Britain, to reduce the need for such large imports and permit the purchase abroad of other more necessary items.

Theaters and Types of Films, Maracaibo, Venezuela

About 40 percent of the motion pictures currently being shown at public theaters in Maracaibo, Venezuela, are of United States production and about 50 percent Mexican. Argentina and Russia furnish a few pictures each year, and domestic studios contribute several. The popularity of the Mexican pictures is due chiefly to the language factor and to the plots' revolving around a mode of living familiar to the majority in the audiences.

Films produced in the United States are of excellent quality, but the usual system of dubbing has not proved altogether satisfactory. However, dubbed films are far more popular than those in which subtitles are used. Musical features, especially if they have a Latin background, are very popular even when subtitles are utilized. Frequently depicting the social life of the wealthy, films made in Argentina appear to have little or no appeal to a large portion of the theatergoing public in Maracaibo.

At present there are 15 motion-picture theaters in Maracaibo, having an aggregate monthly attendance of 105,000 persons. Rapidly growing audiences were responsible for the construction of 5 within the past 3 years. The most recently completed, which is the largest in the city, has a seating capacity of 1,500 persons. Others seat from 500 to 1,000. Distributors express the opinion that with a population of 150,000 Maracaibo could support at least 6 more theaters provided they were well located.

The majority of the theaters in Maracaibo are open-air theaters and have two showings a day, both in the evening. Censorship is based on whether a picture is fit or unfit for those under 18 years of age. Pictures depicting violence or crime or with other objectionable features are generally considered unfit for children and must be so advertised. The attendance of children is small but that of the general public large in relation to the population and the limited income of the audiences.

In the early part of each week two or three of the Maracaibo theaters have one-day showings of serial pictures produced in the United States. These are usually popular with the public.

There are four clubs in Maracaibo which show motion pictures for the benefit of members and guests on a twice-weekly basis. The clubs, however, are chiefly patronized by the wealthy and members of the foreign community. Attendance at club motion-picture shows runs at approximately 4,500 per month.

Outside of Maracaibo proper, but within a radius of 50 miles, motion pictures are shown at the camps of the various oil companies and at public open-air theaters. There are about 19 theaters of this kind, many of which seat as many as 500 persons.

Naval Stores

Imports of Turpentine and Pitch, Brazil

Brazil's imports of turpentine during the period January-August 1945 amounted to 219 metric tons, valued at 1,960,000 cruzeiros, according to official statistics of the Ministry of Finance. The United States was the sole supplier.

Imports of pitch, also entirely from the United States, during the 8 months totaled 1,597 tons, valued at 3,863,000 cruzeiros.

Paints and Pigments

Brazilian Imports

Brazil's imports of oil paints during the period January–August 1945 amounted to 256 metric tons, valued at approximately $110,300, according to the Ministry of Finance. The United States supplied 114 tons, valued at $48,650.

Imports of pyroxylin lacquers during the first 8 months of 1945 totaled 112 tons, worth about $93,450, the entire amount being from the United States.

Ready-mixed paints imported during the period amounted to 60 tons, with a valuation of $32,250; 56 tons, valued at $30,750, were supplied by the United States. Imports of varnishes in the 8 months totaled 174 tons, valued at $131,650; 156 tons, worth $116,500, being from the United States.

Paper and Related Products

U. S. Imports of Wood Pulp

Imports of wood pulp into the United States from overseas totaled 3,499 short

tons during the week ended January 17, 1946.

The aggregate quantity of wood pulp imported from oversea sources since the first postwar importations were reported for the week ended June 29, 1945, through January 17, 1946, amounts to 722,415 short tons. This tonnage was composed of about 41 percent unbleached sulfite wood pulp, about 42 percent unbleached sulfate wood pulp (kraft), and about 8 percent of bleached sulfite grades other than high alpha and dissolving. The remaining 9 percent was mechanical pulp, bleached sulfate, special chemical grades of bleached sulfite, and soda pulp.

Entries of Wood Pulp Into the United States From Sweden by Customs District and Country of Origin, Week Ended Jan. 17, 1946

District and grade	Quantity	Value*
New York:		
Sulfite, rayon and special chemical grades, bleached	*Short tons* 34	$2,834
Sulfite, other than rayon and special chemical grades, bleached	245	18,085
Sulfate (kraft pulp), unbleached	2,003	127,999
Los Angeles:		
Mechanically ground wood pulp, unbleached	778	32,159
Sulfite, unbleached	439	28,138
Total	3,499	209,215

*Value is usually foreign or export value in principal market of exporting country. It does not include such items as ocean freight or insurance costs. For complete statement on valuation of imports refer to "Explanation of Statistics" in printed volumes of Foreign Commerce and Navigation of the United States.

Cumulative Imports of Oversea Wood Pulp—VE-day Through Jan. 17, 1946

Item	Quantity	Value *
Mechanically ground wood pulp, unbleached	*Short tons* 29,299	$1,096,924
Mechanically ground wood pulp, bleached	1,177	43,098
Sulfite, unbleached	299,566	18,535,539
Sulfite, rayon and special chemical grades, bleached	3,670	312,596
Sulfite, other than rayon and special chemical grades, bleached	56,003	4,139,661
Sulfate (kraft pulp), unbleached	302,147	18,282,806
Sulfate, bleached	28,070	2,039,970
Soda pulp, unbleached and bleached	39	2,119
Unclassified wood pulp	2,444	146,616
Total	722,415	44,599,329

* See footnote to the preceding table.

Belgian Paper Supply Improved

By November 1945, the Belgian paper supply was showing considerable improvement as a result of the purchase of 45,000 tons of pulp in Sweden and 18,000 tons of U. S. Army surplus pulp and paper. In addition, 20,000 tons of paper had been obtained from the United States and 12,000 tons from Sweden. Newsprint still presented a month-to-month problem of supply, but allocations were from 1,700 to 1,900 tons a month as compared with 500 to 800 tons during the spring.

Increased Output of Paper and Imports of Wood Pulp, France

French production of paper and paperboard increased steadily from a law of 18,600 tons in August 1945 to 40,500 tons in November. Of the November production, 4,500 tons were newsprint. Average monthly paper production in 1938 amounted to 95,400 tons, of which 24,000 tons were newsprint. During the German occupation, an average of 27,314 tons a month was produced, newsprint representing 6,100 tons. Production toward the close of 1945 was about 42 percent of the prewar output.

Imports of wood pulp increased from a low of 1,577 tons in July 1945 to 19,648 tons in October. The larger imports in October may have made it possible to fill 25 percent of the country's 1945 requirements, which were estimated as two-thirds of prewar consumption. Even with improvements in the paper situation at the end of 1945, normal conditions seemed remote, and the two-page newspaper was expected to remain for some time.

Petroleum and Products

Imports Into Fiji Islands

The quantity and value of petroleum products imported into the Fiji Islands from the United States in the years 1940–44 are shown in the accompanying table.

Quantity and Value of Petroleum Products Imported Into the Fiji Islands From the United States—1940–44

Product	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944
	Quantity				
Lubricating grease ..... pounds	118,048	73,920	113,792	45,248	72,016
Diesel oil ..... barrels	30,323	50,981	160,393	51,455	110,344
Kerosene ..... do	6,382	8,559	8,171	11,557	8,681
Gasoline ..... do	19,223	31,364	43,802	26,589	37,543
Other oils ..... do	5,096	4,077	7,531	2,936	4,074
	Value (in Fiji pounds)[1]				
Lubricating grease	2,366	1,516	1,855	973	1,585
Diesel oil	14,651	20,301	76,516	34,319	49,610
Kerosene	11,875	15,880	15,101	23,560	15,521
Gasoline	16,589	27,118	47,125	31,511	50,190
Other oils	25,401	21,831	49,098	19,832	23,082
Total value	70,882	99,986	189,695	110,195	139,988

[1] Bank buying rate, $3.6668=£F1.

Brazilian Imports

Brazil imported about 5,000,000 barrels of gasoline, kerosene, Diesel oil, fuel oil, refined lubricating oils, and crude petroleum, during the first 8 months of 1945. The accompanying table shows total imports of these items and imports from the United States during August 1945 and the January-August period. The United States furnished 92 percent of the imports of lubricating oil and all the crude oil but very little of the other items.

Brazil's Imports of Petroleum and Products During August, and January–August, 1945

Product	August 1945		January–August 1945		Conversion factor (barrels per metric ton)
	Total	From United States	Total	From United States	
	Barrels	*Barrels*	*Barrels*	*Barrels*	
Petroleum, crude			1,251	1,251	7.401
Gasoline in bulk and containers	277,950	247	2,503,684	21,590	8.50
Kerosene	45,384		277,473	5,448	7.75
Diesel oil	160,435		586,409	863	7.25
Fuel oil	239,327		1,233,299	3,630	6.66
Lubricating oils, refined	20,622	20,622	368,340	339,122	7.00
Total	743,718	20,869	4,970,456	371,904	

Madagascar's Imports

During the first 10 months of 1945, 6,038 metric tons (51,323 barrels) of gasoline, 2,039 tons (15,802 barrels) of kerosene, and 918 tons (6,426 barrels) of lubricating oil were imported into Madagascar. In addition, 1,417 metric tons of other motor fuels were imported.

Business Is the Greatest Single Force for Social Good

Scientific and Professional Equipment

French Imports

During September 1945 France exported 37 metric tons of scientific apparatus, valued at 8,259,000 francs, and imported 18 metric tons of scientific apparatus, valued at 10,085,000 francs. (In September 1945 the franc was equal to about $0.020189 in United States currency.)

Powerful Telescope To Be Installed, Union of South Africa

A telescope is to be installed at Harvard Observatory, near Bloemfontein, Union of South Africa, which, according to a foreign press report, will be the most powerful in the world. Its reported strength will be 50 to 100 times that of the biggest telescope now in use.

Special Products

Output of Finland's Porcelain Factory

Finland's Arabia Porcelain Factory, the largest of its kind in Europe, was scheduled to ship to Sweden a total of 1,000,000 crowns' worth of sanitary and household porcelain products during the last half of 1945, according to the Finnish press. (One Swedish crown=about $0.2388 in United States currency.) In accordance with trade agreements concluded by Finland with Denmark and with Norway, the Arabia company will ship similar products also to these latter countries. Deliveries will depend, however, on the amount of raw materials that will be available. By the end of October the company had received 4,000 tons of kaolin from Sweden and 2,600 tons from the Soviet Union, and 1,500 tons of clay and kaolin from England. The total annual consumption of the factory is said to be between 8,000 and 9,000 tons of kaolin and 16,000 tons of clay.

Situation in China-Clay Industry, U. K.

The President of the United Kingdom Board of Trade announced in the House of Commons in November that special steps were being taken by the Government to assist the china-clay industry to fill United States orders. A member of the House, in discussion with the President of the Board, asserted that the china-clay industry had orders amounting to more than £250,000 in value from United States importers and that direction of labor away from the industry was hindering production, on which the livelihood of many Cornish people depends. Since the middle of 1944, however, according to the Board of Trade, 750 workers had been added to the labor force of the industry, which in late 1945 was exporting at a rate of 98,000 tons annually, compared with 62,000 tons in 1944.

U. K. Manufacture of Oak and Fiber Furniture Resumed

Resumption in the United Kingdom of the manufacture of oak utility bedroom furniture was announced by the British press during October. Oak is expected to be more plentiful than some other woods as a result of cut-backs in war contracts following the sudden ending of the war. Mahogany will be scarcer owing to heavy demands from other consumers.

From the beginning of October, timber allocations to manufacturers of bedroom furniture were made on the basis of 50 percent oak and 50 percent mahogany. The manufacture of utility woven-fiber furniture was also begun in the United Kingdom soon after the end of the war.

Textiles and Related Products

Foreign Trade of Madagascar

Exports of vegetable fibers from Madagascar during the first 9 months of 1945 amounted to 46,352 metric quintals (1 metric quintal=220.46 pounds) and were valued at 58,440,000 francs, according to official Commerce and Navigation Statistics of Madagascar. Raffia was the largest single item making up more than 80 percent of the total. Details are as follows: Crin vegetal, 553 metric quintals valued at 918,000 francs; raffia, 36,534 metric quintals, 50,570,000 francs; sisal, 9,129 metric quintals, 6,775,000 francs; and kapok, 136 metric quintals, 177,000 francs. In addition, 28,691 aloe-fiber hats valued at 1,611,000 francs were shipped during the period.

Textile imports during the same months were composed primarily of cotton and jute cloth; only small amounts of wool cloth and various kinds of clothing were included. Jute cloth imported during the January–September period amounted to 23,049 metric quintals and was valued at 28,583,000 francs. Cotton cloth, totaling 34 935 metric quintals valued at 347,619,000 francs, was the largest single item of import from the standpoint of value, comprising more than 40 percent of the total value of all imports in the first 9 months of 1945. Imports of wool cloth were nominal, amounting to only 407 metric quintals valued at 14,594,000 francs, while clothing and other manufactured items received during the period amounted to 692 metric quintals and were valued at 5,444,000 francs. (As used in this report the franc had a value of approximately $0.021 in United States currency.)

Shortages of Cotton and Wool Yarns, Palestine

Domestic production of textiles in Palestine reportedly was falling far short of the strong demand in late 1945, according to the foreign press. Because of shortages of cotton and woolen yarns, even the limited productive capacity of the weaving and knitting mills (which depend on imported yarns to a considerably extent) was not being utilized to the full, and several factories had cut down working hours or closed entirely. It is estimated that 40 to 50 percent of Palestine's looms are idle. Scarce yarns are still allocated to Palestine under the joint United States and British supply authorities, while there has been an increase in the number of factories and additional looms have been installed in existing establishments. The estimated cotton yarn needed for full utilization of mill capacity is 500 tons monthly, and the total supply amounts to only half of that quantity.

Palestine manufacturers of cotton and wool textiles have been endeavoring to obtain spindles from the United States and Great Britain, in order to furnish their own yarn requirements. While prospects are not bright for an alleviation of cotton-yarn shortage soon, equipment for two wool spinning mills had arrived in the country by the end of 1945 and there was hope of improvement in the supply of wool yarn.

Fabrics Released for Civilian Items, U. K.

Approximately 6,500,000 yards of unprocessed cotton and nylon fabrics held by parachute and balloon manufacturers in the United Kingdom were being released in November 1945 for production of clothing and other essential civilian items, according to the Board of Trade. Nearly 26,000,000 more yards of nylon, cotton, and rayon, it was said, would be available from finished parachutes which had been declared surplus.

Cotton and Products

Imports of Cotton Textiles, British East Africa

Cotton textiles were the most important item of imports into Kenya and Uganda, British East Africa, in 1944, according to official reports of these protectorates. Valued at £3,186,439, they constituted about 20 percent of the value of al imports, as they did also in 1943, when they amounted to £2,950,642. India, the main supplier, furnished 87 percent of these textiles, the United Kingdom 6 percent, and the United States about 5 percent. Cotton-textile imports have risen steadily in value from the 1941 figure—£1,703,261.

Canadian Imports

During the first 9 months of 1945 raw cotton and linters valued at $27,603,000 (Canadian currency) were imported into Canada, as compared with $28,788,000 in the like period of 1944. Cotton-yarn imports were valued at $5,417,000 ($5,890,000); and fabrics $25,545,000 ($28,382,000), according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

During the same period cotton fabrics valued at $3,922 000 ($1,392,000) were exported from Canada.

Swiss Imports of Cotton

Switzerland imported 2,432 metric tons of cotton in October 1945, compared with 1,321 tons in September, and only 55 tons in October 1944. More than 50 percent of the October 1945 imports of cotton came from the United States and 30 percent from Peru.

Conditions in Industry, Iran

The 1945 cotton crop in Iran has been estimated unofficially at 15,500 metric tons, which was the yield of 122,500 hectares planted to cotton. (One hectare =2.47 acres.)

Trade sources reported in the fall of 1945 that large quantities of foreign cotton had been brought into Iran and were being sold to the mills and bazar wholesalers. In view of this situation, it was believed that reconsideration was warranted of the Ministry of Agriculture's prediction that domestic production would be consumed entirely by the Iranian textile industry and homecrafts, together with a carry-over of 5,000 to 7,000 tons from the old crop. Since capacity of the cotton spinning and weaving plant showed no increase in the fall of 1945, it

was conjectured that consumption during the year ending March 20, 1946 would be less than 10,000 metric tons.

According to figures released by the Iranian Customs Administration, 1,240 metric tons of cotton were imported during the year ended March 20, 1945, compared with 8,140 tons during the year ended March 20, 1944. Iraq and British India supplied the bulk.

Iran exported only 2 metric tons of cotton in the year ended March 20, 1945, and 5 tons during the preceding year, compared with 4,700 tons in the year ended March 20, 1942, and 19,800 tons in the preceding year.

U. K. Exports of Yarn and Cloth

The United Kingdom exported 310,140,300 square yards of cotton cloth and 11,535,600 pounds of cotton yarn during the first 8 months of 1945, compared with 434,163,000 square yards of cloth and 19,618,000 pounds of yarn during the comparable period in 1944, according to the British Board of Trade.

Synthetic Fibers and Products

Progress in French Rayon Industry

Revival of rayon-manufacturing activity in the Lyon area of France, where it is estimated that 90 percent of all French rayon is produced, was progressing satisfactorily, according to November reports. Output of 1,542 tons of filament yarn in September 1945 was 160 percent greater than estimated production of 586 tons in February of the same year. Spun-rayon-yarn production showed even more remarkable gains, rising from 241 tons in January 1945 to 1,133 tons in September, an increase of 370 percent. Deliveries of finished fabrics in September 1945 totaled 5,968,000 square meters, as compared with average monthly deliveries of 4,817,000 square meters in the first 5 months of the year.

Rayon Yarn Imported, Palestine

Imports of rayon yarn into Palestine from the United Kingdom during the first 6 months of 1945 were valued at 91,903 Palestinian pounds. (One £P=$US4.02.)

Wool and Products

Canadian Exports and Imports

Wool exports from Canada during the first 9 months of 1945 were valued at $14,863,000, (Canadian currency) compared with $15,606,000 in the like period of 1944, and included raw wool valued at $2,693,000 ($3,447,000), according to an official Canadian Government publication.

Wool imports into Canada during the same period were valued at $32,915,000 ($25,211,000 in the 1944 period) and partly comprised raw wool valued at $9,010,000 ($8,277,000); noils and tops valued at $5,051,000 ($3,975,000); yarn valued at $5,090,000 ($2,291,000); and worsteds and serges valued at $6,195,000 ($5,148,000).

Eire's Imports of Yarns

During the first 9 months of 1945, 480,736 pounds of woolen and worsted yarns valued at £189,207 were imported into Eire. This compares with 398,650 pounds and £114,820 during the like period in 1944.

Prague Fair Postponed

The Prague International Fair—announced in this weekly on October 13, 1945, for March of this year—has been *postponed* until the autumn because of inability to complete rehabilitation of the Fair buildings.

The opening date will be released as soon as determined.

Wool Situation in U. K.

Raw wool imported into the United Kingdom during the first 9 months of 1945 totaled 391,000,000 pounds compared with 491,000,000 pounds during the comparable period in 1944, according to a British trade journal.

A fairly large reexport trade—58,000,000 pounds—was reported for this period, the bulk of which went to continental European countries, according to trade estimates.

Annual wool consumption in the United Kingdom in prewar years is said to have fluctuated between 600,000,000 and 700,000,000 pounds. At the end of 1945 consumption was estimated at about 60 percent of the prewar average.

Miscellaneous Fibers

Prospects for Fiber-Flax Production, Canada

Canadian fiber-flax production in 1945 should yield 1,250 tons of line fiber and 1,750 tons of scutched tow, from a total seeded area of 21,271 acres, according to preliminary estimates. Prospects for 1946, however, are uncertain. Great Britain has offered to purchase up to 500 tons of line fiber and up to 1,000 tons of tow from the 1946 crop but at prices for the various grades ranging from 6 to 16 cents per pound lower than those paid under the terms of the wartime purchase contract. Although Canadian producers were reported in November to be reluctant to accept this offer, official spokesmen were of the opinion that eventually a contract would be signed and that a tendency to reduce flax acreage, particularly on the part of those who entered the business on rented land solely to take advantage of high prices, would be noticeable beginning with the 1946 season.

Haitian Exports and Production of Sisal

Exports of sisal from Haiti during the first 10 months of 1945 amounted to 8,968,100 kilograms as compared with 7,154,147 kilograms in the corresponding period of 1944. October shipments of 1,548,015 kilograms were the highest in any month since February 1943 when 1,804,370 kilograms were exported.

Commercial production of sisal for the 3 months August–October 1945 is estimated to have been 3,614,151 kilograms, of which 150,000 kilograms were believed to have been on plantations, at ports, and in the hands of independent operators who deal in peasant sisal, on October 31. It is estimated that perhaps 100,000 kilograms were used during the period by the domestic handicraft and twine industries.

Wearing Apparel

Output and Expenses of Shirt Factories, Eire

Gross output of shirt-making factories in Eire was valued at £543,179 in 1944 as compared with £488,343 in 1943, according to preliminary figures reported in the 1944 Census of Industrial Production. Salaries and wages paid in 1944 amounted to £93,422 and cost of materials, fuel, packing and other operating expenses to £318,202 as compared with £76,666 and £283,335, respectively, in 1943. Net value of output was reported at £224,977 in 1944 and £205,202 in 1943.

Tobacco and Related Products

Tobacco Production in Canada

The commercial production of all leaf tobacco in Canada in 1945 is currently estimated at 97,314,850 pounds, from an area of 93,697 acres, reports the Dominion press. This is an average yield of 1,039 pounds per acre. Since the 1944 production amounted to 105,415,500 pounds, from 88,495 acres, current output represents a decrease of 7.7 percent.

Production of flue-cured tobacco in 1945 totaled 79,046,250 pounds, grown on 77,199 acres, compared with 86,669,000 pounds from 73,697 acres in 1944. Of the total quantity of flue-cured tobacco, Ontario produced 74,876,000 pounds, a reduction of 9.3 percent from the 1944 production, which was 82,595,000 pounds, although acreage was increased in 1945 to 72,344, compared with 68,800 acres in the preceding year.

In 1945 British Columbia planted 130 acres to tobacco for flue curing, contrasted to 152 acres in 1944. The production on this reduced acreage, however, was 11,000 pounds greater than the 1944 crop of 143,000 pounds. Quebec increased slightly its flue-cured production in 1945, as compared with the preceding year. The 1945 area was 4,725 acres, yielding 4,016,250 pounds, in contrast to the 1944 area of 4,745 acres, with a yield of 3,931,000 pounds.

Canada's burley acreage in 1945 increased to 10,185 acres from 9,460 acres in 1944, but even with this increased planting 1945 production was estimated at 11,581,000 compared with 12,223,000 pounds in 1944.

Dark tobacco is grown under contract in Canada, and the latest estimates place the planting at 1,308 acres, an increase over the preceding year of 209 acres. Production of 1,488,100 pounds of tobacco in 1945 was slightly less than the 1,556,700 pounds produced in 1944.

Canada's cigar-leaf acreage and production were both lower in 1945 than in the preceding year, there being an es-

(Continued on p. 38)

Trade-Mark Applications

Chile.—Notice of applications for registration of the following trade-marks was published in the Diario Oficial of January 15, 1946. Opposition must be filed within 30 days from date of publication:

Trade-mark	*Class No. and product*
Brevilina	75—Drugs and pharmaceutical products.
Brevicidina	Do.
Asepsil	Do.
Brevisepsil	Do.
Brevisep	Do.
Lactacrinetas	Do.
Trificol	Do.
Finatol	Do.
Funogol	Do.
Fungirol	Do.
Fungonol	Do.
Fidonal	Do.
Anfitol	Do.
Ficida	Do.
Dele-Dele	Do.
Te Garfield	Do.
Polvos de Garfield Para Jaqueca.	Do.
Arseclor	Do.
Episel	Do.
Afanol	Do.
Afisol	Do.
Nomaf	Do.
Afsil	Do.
Fisel	Do.
Ci-Oslan	Do.
Fuco-Oslan	Do.
Grifocilina	Do.
Grifomicina	Do.
Lucozade	Do.
Thera-Vitam	Do.
Thera-Vit	Do.
Vi-Thera	Do.
Erobil	Do.
Beritren	Do.
Baroid	Do.
Solvasul	Do.
Brocavil	Do.
Polisalil	Do.
Cogul	Do.
Vimin	Do.
Colex	Do.
Combenorthrop	Do.
Miosept	Do.
Musilax	Do.
Arterin	Do.
Cabromnor Throp	Do.
Moskifin	Do.
Frigovac	Do.
Wintropal	Do.
Miofilina	Do.
Cardioginol	Do.
Cardiofenyl	Do.
Estrofil	Do.
Midatol	Do.
Aplexol	Do.
Pleurinol	Do.
Diofina	Do.
Fenocar	Do.
Cetan	Do.
Cevitan	Do.
Cevitol	Do.
Broncodil	Do.
Broton	Do.
Fadil	Do.
Aspro	Do.
Numotizine	Do.
Alugranal	Do.
Metropine	Do.
Sul Facaine Lozenge	Do.
Sedatox	Do.
El Joc Key	82—Periodical publications.
Casos y Cosas Del Conscripto Videla Por Lugoze.	Do.
La Vivienda	Do.
Unidad	Do.

Brazil.—Notice of applications for registration of the following trade-marks was published in the Diário Oficial. Opposition must be filed within 60 days from the date of publication:

Trade-mark	Class No. and product	Date of publication
		1945
Digitotex	3—A pharmaceutical preparation.	Dec. 15
Auto-Lux	6—Washing machines	Do.
Do	8—Refrigerators	Do.
Aut-O-Lux	6—Washing machines	Do.
Do	8—Refrigerators	Do.
Miraclepen	13—Articles of precious metals and jewelry. Articles of semiprecious metals, imitations of precious metals and jewelry.	Do.
Redfly	55—Preparations for conserving and polishing floors and objects in general and for cleaning metals.	Do.
Spring	36—Outer wearing apparel (clothing, shoes, hats, knit goods, stockings and unspecified).	Do.
Esfinge	8—Precision, scientific (including for industrial, educational, and utility purposes, measures and scales of all kinds) instruments.	Do.
Do	12—Hardware and tubes of all kinds. Small metal articles. Other articles of metal not specified in other classes.	Do.
Zigzag	42—Wines and alcoholic beverages (not included in other classes).	Do.
Furodit	5—Metals, unwrought, or partially wrought, used in industries.	Do.
R C W-2	do	Do.
R U S-4	do	Do.
R T-9	do	Do.
R A N-4	do	Do.
R A E-5	do	Do.
R-4/5	do	Do.
R F-4/5	do	Do.
R N O	do	Do.
Toccesterona	3—Chemical substances and other preparations for use in medicine and in pharmacy. Vaccines and biocultures for use in medicine and in pharmacy.	Do.
Akirol	do	Do.
Fitone	do	Do.
Mercur	1—Chemical substances used in manufactured products, industries, analyses, research, photography, and as anticorrosives.	Do.
Do	2—Chemical substances used for agricultural and horticultural, veterinary, and sanitary purposes.	Do.
	3—Chemical substances and other preparations for use in medicine and in pharmacy. Vaccines and biocultures for use in medicine and in pharmacy.	Do.
Do	48—Perfumes and scented soaps. Preparations for cleaning and conservation of teeth and hair, and brushes. Combs and other toilet articles not specified.	Do.
Metex	3—Chemical substances and other preparations for use in medicine and in pharmacy. Vaccines and biocultures for use in medicine and in pharmacy.	Do.
Monroe	41—Animal and vegetal foodstuffs preserved or not. Ingredients for foods and preparations of substances for the same purpose, preserved or not.	Do.
Evaton	3—A pharmaceutical preparation.	Do.
Gloria	41—Vegetable fats	Do.
Bismhydrol	3—A pharmaceutical product.	Do.
Vitacrin	48—Perfumes and scented soaps. Preparations for cleaning and conservation of teeth and hair, and brushes. Combs and other toilet articles not specified.	*1945* Dec. 15
CEB	8—Precision, scientific (including for industrial, educational, and utility purposes, measures, and scales of all kinds) instruments.	Do.
Drainochol	3—Pharmaceutical products.	Do.
Aktivanad	3—Chemical substances and other preparations for use in medicine and in pharmacy. Vaccines and biocultures for use in medicine and in pharmacy.	Do.
Kationorm	do	Do.
Crisylol	2—Chemical substances used for agricultural and horticultural, veterinary and sanitary purposes.	Do.
Deutoplas	3—Chemical substances and other preparations for use in medicine and in pharmacy. Vaccines and biocultures for use in medicine and in pharmacy.	Do.
Lumitox	1—Chemical substances used in manufactured products, industries, analyses, research, photography and as anticorrosives.	Do.
Fluodyne	3—Chemical substances and other preparations for use in medicine and in pharmacy. Vaccines and biocultures for use in medicine and in pharmacy.	Do.
Paludrine	do	Do.
Biorthron	do	Do.
Tonoplasmina	2—Chemical substances used for agricultural and horticultural, veterinary and sanitary purposes.	Do.
Mi-Lady	36—Shoes in general	Do.
Morgana	48—Perfumes and scented soaps. Preparations for cleaning and conservation of teeth and hair, and brushes. Combs and other toilet articles not specified.	Do.
Vishnu	do	Do.
Gumalon	4—Animal, vegetable, and mineral substances, wrought or partially prepared in industries, not specifically mentioned in other classes.	Do.
Chromosalex-4 S.	1—Chemical substances used in manufactured products, industries, analyses, research, photography and as anticorrosives.	Do.
Comparcol	do	Do.
Hexavit	3—Chemical substances and other preparations for use in medicine and in pharmacy. Vaccines and biocultures for use in medicine and in pharmacy.	Do.
Dispneitrat	do	Do.
Radar	8—Electric batteries	Do.
Plexalgine	3—A pharmaceutical product.	Do.
Trinibaine	do	Do.
Triniphylline	do	Do.
Trinitral	do	Do.
Dettol	3—Chemical substances and other preparations for use in medicine and in pharmacy. Vaccines and biocultures for use in medicine and in pharmacy.	Do.
	2—Chemical substances used for agricultural and horticultural, veterinary and sanitary purposes.	
Capisan	48—Perfumes and scented soaps. Preparations for cleaning and conservation of teeth and hair, and brushes. Combs and other toilet articles not specified.	Do.
H I C	39—Articles of rubber or guttapercha (not included in other classes).	Do.
	48—Perfumes and scented soaps. Preparations for cleaning and conservation of teeth and hair, and brushes. Combs and other toilet articles not specified.	

Trade-mark	Class No. and product	Date of publication
		1945
Picador	41—Animal and vegetal foodstuffs preserved or not. Ingredients for foods and preparation of substances for the same purpose, preserved or not.	Dec. 15
HIC	10—Instruments, apparatus and appliances, medicinal, surgical, veterinary for curative purposes or in relation to the health of man or animals.	Do.
	11—Cutlery for general and household use. Cutting and perforating instruments and tubes (except parts of machines).	Do.
	14—Glass, common, laminated, or wrought in all forms and in any preparations.	Do.
	Crystal glass for all purposes and industrial glass with metal netting or special compositions.	Do.
Ambassador	37—Underwear and bed sheets, table covers, etc.	Do.
	36—Outer wearing apparel (clothing, shoes, hats, knit goods, stockings and unspecified).	Do.
Supergas	47—Oils and other substances for heating, illuminating, combustion or lubrication.	Do.
Rex	12—Cutlery	Do.
Picrargyl	3—A pharmaceutical specialty.	Do.
Triferment	3—Chemical substances and other preparations for use in medicine and in pharmacy. Vaccines and biocultures for use in medicine and in pharmacy.	Do.
Tropal	23—Textiles	Do.
Lancaster	23—Cotton piece goods	Do.
Socacia	2—Chemical substances used for agricultural and horticultural, veterinary and sanitary purposes.	Do.
Roof	41—Animal and vegetal foodstuffs preserved or not. Ingredients for foods and preparation of substances for the same purpose, preserved or not.	Do.
Baby	29—Silk (natural and artificial) piece goods.	Do.
Sureke	3—Chemical substances and other preparations for use in medicine and in pharmacy. Vaccines and biocultures for use in medicine and in pharmacy.	Do.
Efikebe	do	Do.
Vitam I. L. A. N.	41—Animal and vegetal foodstuffs preserved or not. Ingredients for foods and preparation of substances for the same purpose, preserved or not.	Do.
Vanitas	37—Ladies' underwear	Do.
Ddteina	2—Insecticides	Do.
Kosmos	55—Floor wax and shoe wax	Do.
XPTO	42—Wines and alcoholic beverages (not included in other classes).	Do.
Likuri	46—Soaps	Do.
York	41—Candies	Do.
Majestic	23—Cotton piece goods	Do.
Estylo	17—Writing pens	Do.

Latin American Exchange Rates

NOTE.—Averages are based on actual selling rates for sight drafts on New York, in units of foreign currency, per dollar, with the following exception: Cuba—United States dollar to the peso. The peso of the Dominican Republic, the Guatemalan quetzal, and the Panamanian balboa are linked to the dollar at 1 to 1; the Haitian gourde is fixed at 5 gourdes to a dollar.

Country	Unit quoted	Type of exchange	Average rate			Latest available quotation		
			1943 (annual)	1944 (annual)	October 1945 (monthly)	Rate	Approximate equivalent in U. S. currency	Date
Argentina	Paper peso	Official A	3.73	3.73	3.73	3.73	$0.2681	Nov. 26, 1945
		Official B	4.23	4.23	4.23	4.23	.2364	Do.
		Bid	4.94	4.94	4.94	4.94	.2024	Do.
		Free market	4.06	4.03	4.03	4.08	.2451	Do.
Bolivia	Boliviano	Controlled	42.91	42.42	42.42	42.42	.0236	Oct. 31, 1945
		Curb	48.42	51.80	61.00	61.00	.0164	Do.
Brazil	Cruzeiro [1]	Official	16.50	16.50	16.50	16.50	.0606	Jan. 9, 1946
		Free market	19.63	19.57	19.50	19.50	.0513	Do.
		Special free market	20.43	20.20	20.00	20.00	.0500	Do.
Chile	Peso	Special	19.37	19.37	19.37	19.37	.0516	Nov. 30, 1945
		Export draft	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	.0400	Do.
		Free market	32.37	31.85	32.85	32.30	.0310	Do.
		"D. P." [2]	31.00	31.00	31.00	31.00	.0323	Do.
Colombia	do	Commercial bank	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.746	.5727	Oct. 31, 1945
		Bank of Republic	1.76	1.76	1.76	1.755	.5698	Do.
		Curb	1.76	1.75	1.83	1.83	.5464	Do.
Costa Rica	Colon	Uncontrolled	5.65	5.66	5.71	5.71	.1751	Nov. 30, 1945
		Controlled	5.62	5.62	5.62	5.62	.1779	Do.
Cuba	Peso	Free	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.0000	Dec. 31, 1945
Ecuador	Sucre	Central Bank (official)	14.10	14.06	[4] 13.77	[4] 13.77	.0726	Nov. 16, 1945
Honduras	Lempira	Official	2.04	2.04	2.04	2.04	.4902	Nov. 30, 1945
Mexico	Peso	Free	4.85	4.85	4.86	4.86	.2058	Do.
Nicaragua	Cordoba	Official	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	.2000	Dec. 29, 1945
		Curb	5.16	5.72	5.83	5.60	.1786	Do.
Paraguay	Paper peso	Official	333.00					Do.
	Guarani [3]	do	3.10	3.11	3.12	3.12	.3205	Oct. 31, 1945
Peru	Sol	Free	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50	.1538	Nov. 30, 1945
Salvador	Colon	do	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50	.4000	Do.
Uruguay	Peso	Controlled	1.90	1.90	1.90	1.90	.5263	Jan. 2, 1946
		Free:						Do.
		Imports	1.90	1.90	1.90	1.90	.5263	Do.
		Other purposes [5]		1.85	1.785	1.785	.5602	Do.
Venezuela	Bolivar	Controlled	3.35	3.35	3.35	3.35	.2985	Dec. 27, 1945
		Free	3.35	3.35	3.35	3.35	.2985	Do.

[1] Under law of Oct. 6, 1942, the cruzeiro became the unit of currency, replacing the milreis. Since November 1942, exchange quotations have been in terms of cruzeiros and centavos to the dollar.

[2] Disponibilidades propias (private funds).

[3] New currency unit instituted as of Nov. 8, 1943. Paraguayan central bank establishes a "legal rate" from which buying and selling rates may vary by 1 percent. Since July 13, 1944, the legal rate has been fixed at 3.09 guaranies to the dollar, resulting in buying and selling rates of 3.059 and 3.121, respectively.

[4] A decree of Nov. 18, 1944, fixed basic central bank buying and selling rates at 13.40 and 13.50 sucres to the dollar, respectively, but the imposition at the same time of a 2 percent charge on all exchange transactions has resulted in effective buying and selling rates of 13.132 and 13.77.

[5] In effect since July 25, 1944.

NOTE.—Special rates apply to automotive equipment and agricultural machinery imported from the United States into Argentina.

Major Trade-Policy Trends During 1945

(Continued from p. 4)

United States to the United Kingdom of a line of credit for new purchases—together aggregating $4,400,000,000—at moderate rates of interest, and repayable in a flexible manner over a long term of years.

Through affording the United Kingdom the means for financing its exceptionally large import needs during the transition period, the way was opened for several important trade-liberating measures. Exchange restrictions upon payments for current imports into the United Kingdom from the United States are to be lifted promptly upon the coming into effect of the credit arrangement. Within a year, any quantitative restrictions maintained on imports of particular products into the United Kingdom are to be applied without discrimination against the products of the United States, and such sterling funds as may then be available to any of the Empire or other areas for current use are to be freely convertible for purchases in dollar countries or elsewhere. Finally, a program was launched for the early simultaneous negotiation of agreements for reductions of tariffs and trade preferences between the United States and a group of important trading countries, including all the British Empire countries.

PROSPECTIVE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND EMPLOYMENT

No less important, from a broader view, was the concurrence of the British and American Governments in a set of basic principles and policies concerning the reduction of trade barriers and related matters, the general acceptance of which is expected to bring about a revival and enlargement of the trade of all countries, on a more liberal, multilateral, and nondiscriminatory basis. These proposals were promptly placed before the community of nations by the United States, as the basis for an international conference on trade and employment, now contemplated tentatively for the latter part of 1946. The broad program there proposed in the field of commercial policy, and the Bretton Woods agreements in the monetary and investment fields about to come into operation, were designed to supplement and reenforce each other, in promoting the restoration and expansion of the trade, employment, and general prosperity of all participating countries.

U. S. Export Control and Related Announcements

(Developments communicated to the Trade Controls Unit up to Monday, February 4, 1946)

The Office of International Trade, Department of Commerce, has issued the following Current Export Bulletin:

No. 311—*Current Export Bulletin No. 311, January 28, 1946*

SUBSIDY REFUND REQUIRED FOR EXPORT OF DRIED PRUNES AND RAISINS, 1945 CROP

A. Effective February 6, 1946, the procedure regarding the export of 1943 and 1944 crop dried prunes and raisins as set forth in Comprehensive Export Schedule No. 19, page 42, is extended to include exports of the varieties and grades of the 1945 crop of dried prunes and raisins indicated in Department of Agriculture Schedule A–3 attached.

B. In accordance with this procedure, such varieties and grades of dried prunes and raisins may not be exported to destinations, other than Canada and United States territories and possessions, until a Certificate of Subsidy Clearance has been obtained from the Commodity Credit Corporation regardless of whether a subsidy payment is to be refunded. An application for a Certificate of Subsidy Clearance shall be submitted on CCC Export Form 2 to the Dried Fruit Division, Fruit and Vegetable Branch, Production and Marketing Administration, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C. (Hereafter application covering export of the 1943 and 1944 crops shall also be submitted to that office.) If a refund of subsidy payment is required, the application for the certificate must be accompanied by a certified check, payable to the Commodity Credit Corporation, in an amount determined at the rate specified in the attached Schedule A–3.

C. In the event that an exporter desires to export 1943 or 1944 crop dried prunes or raisins, evidence to substantiate the claim that the fruit was produced in 1943 or 1944 may be required by the Commodity Credit Corporation before a Certificate of Subsidy Clearance will be issued. The refund rates applicable to the 1943 crop are specified in Schedule A, copies of which may be obtained from the Commodity Credit Corporation. The refund rates applicable to the 1944 crop are shown in Comprehensive Export Schedule No. 19, page 43, Schedule A–2.

D. Upon receipt of the application for Certificate of Subsidy Clearance, and, when required, the certified check for the proper refund, the Commodity Credit Corporation will issue the Certificate to the exporter, who will present it with his export license when clearing the shipment through Customs.[1]

E. Comprehensive Export Schedule No. 19, Section II, Part 2, Title E, pages 42 and 43 is amended accordingly.

Fruit and Vegetable Branch—Schedule of Refunds To Be Made to Commodity Credit Corporation by Exporters of 1945 Crop Dried Prunes and Raisins

Processed raisins, 1945 crop		Processed prunes,[1] 1945 crop		
Type and variety of Standards quality raisins	Refund per ton (2,000 lbs.)	Grade size group	Packed point	Refund[2] per ton (2,000 lbs.)
		CALIFORNIA THREE DISTRICT		
Natural Thompson Seedless	$85.99	15/20	20	$59.40
Natural Seeded Muscat	116.26	18/24	24	59.50
		20/30	29	59.64
		30/40	39	59.16
Valencia Type or Dehydrated Seeded Muscat	118.49	40/50	49	59.41
		50/60	59	59.66
Sultana	90.84	60/70	69	59.93
		70/80	79	60.17
		80/90	89	60.44
Golden Bleached, Choice Color Thompson Seedless	106.68	90/100	99	60.66
		100/120	119	60.99
		CALIFORNIA OUTSIDE DISTRICT AND NORTHWEST FRENCH		
Golden Bleached, Ex. Choice Color Thompson Seedless	105.25	15/20	20	$59.52
Golden Bleached, Fancy Color Thompson Seedless	106.19	18/24	24	59.61
		20/30	29	59.75
		30/40	39	59.27
		40/50	49	59.53
Sulphur Bleached Thompson Seedless	107.14	50/60	59	59.78
		60/70	69	60.04
Soda Dipped Thompson Seedless	85.26	70/80	79	60.31
		80/90	89	60.55
		90/100	99	60.78
		100/120	119	61.02
		NORTHWEST ITALIAN		
		15/20	20	$63.07
		18/24	24	63.11
		20/30	29	63.15
		30/40	39	65.70
		35/45	44	65.67
		40/50	49	65.64
		50/60	59	65.58
		60/70	69	65.52
		70/80	79	65.48
		80/90	89	65.41
		90/100	99	65.35
		100/120	119	65.01

[1] The refund for prunes having a packed point falling between any two packed points shown in this schedule will be that shown for higher of such packed points. Example—the refund for California Three District prunes with a packed point of 37 will be the refund for prunes with a packed point of 39, or $59.16 per ton.

Next Phase in the Urals: New Plans and Potentials

(Continued from p. 7)

lurgical plants of the western Urals. Nearly all of these deposits can be utilized directly, some after the ore has been concentrated and briquetted. In the not-too-distant past, these local ores supported 10 metallurgical plants in the Urals.

Present iron and steel production in Molotov Province has kept pace with general industrial expansion during the war. A new blast furnace was added at the Chusovaya plant, which in a short time helped to double the capacity of that plant. The plant was further expanded by the addition of a Bessemer department consisting of two converters. Other wartime additions included a second blast furnace at the Pashia plant, a coke battery (the fourth) at Gubakha, and five new open-hearth furnaces at the Lysva and Molotov plants. With nearly one-half of its pig-iron output smelted with charcoal, the iron and steel industry has become known as one of the principal suppliers of naturally alloyed metal for the industry of the U. S. S. R.

In the process of evacuation from the west, the Molotov Province gained several dozen machine-building enterprises, thousands of machine tools and presses, in addition to which a number of entirely new metal-processing plants were erected. As a result of this intensive wartime expansion, the metal-processing industry of Molotov Province now ranks first in importance in the Province, and accounts for one-third of all industrial equipment. Molotov now makes its own machine tools, airplane engines, carburetors, and telephone equipment, many of these by assembly-line methods. Such plants as the Kungur, Yugo-Kamsk, and Pavlovsky produce oil-drilling equipment for the Kama fields. Equipment for the coal industry is produced at the Aleksandrovski plant, chemical machinery at the Pozhva plant, and electric-station equipment at the "Kommunar" plant in Molotov.

Many Metals Available

The metal found in greatest abundance in the western Urals is chromium. The Saranovo chromite deposits, discovered more than 100 years ago and ex-

[1] The requirements set forth in Part D have been approved by the Bureau of the Budget under date of January 22, 1946, and approval number BB 41–R776, in accordance with Regulation A pursuant to the Federal Reports Acts of 1942.

ploited for the last 50 years, are Russia's principal source of chromium. In recent years these mines have been extensively reconstructed, and production has increased several times. On the basis of these deposits, the U. S. S. R. has become an important exporter of chrome ore. The United States market alone absorbed 51,622 long tons of Russian chrome ore in 1944, and 69,350 during the first 9 months of 1945.

The western Urals also supply the industries of the U. S. S. R. with vanadium and titanium from the titanium-magnetite ores of Yubrushka and Mokhovo (Vishera area) and the Permian cuprous sandstones. During the last 10 years, the rich Vishera area has also yielded considerable quantities of nickel. Manganese, too, has been found in the vicinity of some of Molotov's metallurgical plants. Most promising among these deposits, all in the Chusovaya area, are the Berezovski, Mikhailovo, and Vavilonsky deposits. Finally, there are within close range of most local iron and steel plants abundant supplies of limestone for furnace charges, quartzite for dinas brick, flint clay for high-grade refractory materials, dolomites for open-hearth furnaces, and molding sands.

Some centuries ago, when Russia was an important copper producer, the area of present-day Molotov Province was the original center of such production. The first copper-smelting plant in the Urals was founded along the Kama more than 300 years ago in conjunction with the Pyskovsky Monastery. Copper production was encouraged by Peter the Great, who imported foreign specialists to improve extraction and processing methods. At various times, about 25 copper plants and nearly 4,000 copper mines operated through the western Urals. By the middle of the nineteenth century, however, the Perm (Molotov) copper industry, based on Permian cuprous sandstone, declined under the pressure of competition from plants using copper pyrites as a raw material. The last copper mill operating on Permian sandstones, the Yugovski plant, closed in 1903.

At the present time the U. S. S. R. Academy of Sciences is sponsoring large-scale experimental work to discover an economical method for smelting copper from cuprous sandstones. The latter are reported as being remarkably pure, free of any undesirable admixtures such as arsenic and antimony, but containing, on the other hand, not only a high proportion of copper but also vanadium oxide, cobalt, molybdenum, nickel, tin, silver, gold, and platinum.

In the field of nonferrous metals, the bauxite deposits of the western Urals, found mainly along the Chusovaya River, are limited in supply, but magnesium is available in virtually inexhaustible amounts. With its vast deposits of magnesium-rich carnallites, Molotov Province ranks first in the world in the supply of magnesium. During World War II the region has also developed its own magnesium industry. The northeastern and eastern parts of Molotov Province, chiefly the Chusovaya and Visheva River basins, contain rich deposits of gold and platinum. Production of both precious metals has been continuous since the nineteenth century and is reported to be capable of considerable expansion.

Molotov Province is also one of the few diamond-bearing areas in the world. The first diamond in Russia was found in the Chusovaya gold fields, and, although diamonds have since been found in several Ural locations, as well as elsewhere in the Soviet Union, the Chusovaya area remains to this day the principal diamond-bearing region of the Soviet Union.

Quite apart from the immediate practical significance of this region's natural resources to the industries of the Urals, the geographic position of the Molotov Province marks it as a strategic area in Russia's economic drive toward the north. The river basins and railroads of this Province, stemming from the heart of the country, point northward toward a juncture with the rich coal and oil area of North Pechora. Two new railroad lines are at present being projected in connection with the expansion in the Urals: one between Kungur and Ufa in the center of the Urals, and another between Solikamsk and Ukhta on the North Pechora line in the Soviet arctic zone.

Venezuela Pushing Many New Construction Plans

(Continued from p. 10)

school, and the Institute of Hygiene, at a stated cost of some 24,000,000 bolivares.

Proposed Tunnel Construction

Transportation still is one of Venezuela's chief problems, and the increased traffic between La Guaira and Caracas offers no exception to this. Studies were under way in February 1945 to determine the feasibility of constructing a tunnel which would connect Caracas with the port of La Guaira. If this project materializes, it will reduce the road distance between these points to less than one-third. The present connecting concrete highway is 36 kilometers, whereas the beeline distance is only 10 kilometers. The road traverses extremely difficult and mountainous terrain and has steep grades and sharp curves. The tunnel, as planned, will be about 10 kilometers long and will provide for three-lane traffic. Cost of construction has been estimated at some 23,000,000 bolivares, requiring somewhat less than 2 years to complete. Some engineers feel, however, that the construction and operation difficulties, particularly the one of ventilation, are almost insurmountable.

Housing Projects

Formal completion of El Silencio, the largest housing project yet undertaken in Venezuela and outstanding among similar developments in Latin America, was celebrated August 23, 1945. Located in the heart of Caracas—replacing, in fact, a former slum district—it consists of seven reinforced concrete apartment blocks grouped around an extensive plaza in the center of which are two pools fed by fountains equipped for night illumination.

In addition to providing modern residential accommodations for an estimated 5,000 persons in its 742 apartment units, the ground floors of the seven El Silencio buildings have been designed to provide space for 400 retail businesses so that there seems reason to anticipate that the section will develop into one of the important retail and commercial centers of Caracas, if not the leading one. The Banco Obrero which, under the sponsorship of the Venezuelan Government, constructed the project at a cost estimated at approximately 50,000,000 bolivares ($15,000,000 U. S. currency), a central office of Venezuelan air lines, and other prominent enterprises will maintain their headquarters there.

In addition to El Silencio, in Caracas, Maracaibo is scheduled to have 1,000 low-rent houses, according to a September announcement. These also are under the sponsorship of the Banco Obrero in Maracaibo.

New Site for Market Center

As part of a merchants' program to decentralize the wholesale market center in Caracas by moving it to a less-congested area, the National Government has purchased 21,000 square meters of property upon which to erect a modern storage and distribution center at a cost of 650,000 bolivares. The land for the entire center is owned by a joint stock company of merchants and consists of 96,000 square meters. The grading of the land and the laying of the streets was reported to have been accomplished in the spring of 1945, and the municipal government was to have supplied sewage-disposal facilities, light, and a water system.

The Venezuelan Government's interest in the market center arises from the need to make available storage facilities to farmers, so that orderly marketing of perishable products and more equitable distribution to consumers will be assured. It was estimated in March that 40 firms would erect buildings on approximately 50,000 square meters of the site, in addition to the 21,000 square meters to be utilized by the Government. The remaining space will be used for streets and parking. At least three additional markets will be located in other districts of the city, although they will utilize the storage center at the large market.

After the old central market has been demolished, as is presently planned, a modern office building for the use of the Federal District probably will be erected in its place.

Private Construction

Favorable prospects for private construction also are in sight. A considerable portion of private construction undertaken during the past 3 or 4 years has been for the employment of idle funds. Pretentious residences, medium-priced homes, apartments, theaters, and

office buildings composed the bulk of such operations. Adequate housing facilities, however, in the country as a whole still are lacking. Low-cost houses, in particular, are needed.

Considerable building is apparent in Maracaibo, Valencia, San Cristobal, Barquisimeto, and other cities. Many low-cost and modern dwellings were built in Maracaibo and nearby towns during 1944. Statistics for 1943 indicate that 311 houses valued at 3,845,260 bolivares were erected in Maracaibo, compared with 248 houses valued at 2,574,835 bolivares during the preceding year.

Although Venezuela has relied upon imports to obtain certain construction materials, a few have been, and probably will continue to be, available in sufficient quantities from domestic sources. Materials in which the country is expected to be self-sufficient, except for special types or qualities, are cement, asbestos-cement, tile (hollow, roofing, and ordinary floor tile), the porous type of brick used for wall construction with stucco surfacing, cement pipe, building blocks, and lumber.

Market for Equipment

The import market for electrical and plumbing equipment, hardware, and iron and steel structural materials should continue for several years. Bathroom and kitchen tiles, such as glazed, figured, or tinted, generally are imported.

Four cement plants were scheduled to be in operation by the end of 1945. About a year ago, plans were completed for the erection of an asbestos-cement plant to produce shingles and building board.

Construction equipment owned by the Ministry of Public Works probably is approximately equal to the total amount owned by all private construction firms. The present condition of both public and privately owned equipment will necessitate a replacement of 20 percent of it during each of the first 2 postwar years, and a 5 percent augmentation to take care of expanding operations, according to estimates.

The petroleum industry, which is the barometer of Venezuelan economy, wields an all-pervasive influence upon construction activity, and, as a result, construction will be largely governed by increased petroleum production. A large part of the construction and engineering work carried on in the vicinity of Maracaibo is in connection with the petroleum industry. Although no statistics are available, it may be stated that roads and pipe lines, derricks and pumps, living quarters, and workshops are continually being constructed wherever producing wells are being drilled. Some 23 kilometers of pipe line were completed about the end of 1944 to connect with the port facilities of a large oil company. Drilling in the deep water of Lake Maracaibo was started in 1944, and the whole of the lake was allotted by the Government to various oil companies for exploitation in this manner.

Some Foreign Firms Engaged

The number of United States engineering firms, either operational or technical, doing busness in the construction field in Venezuela indicates that the country is a fertile area for such operations. About nine such firms were reported to be operating in that country at the end of 1944, some of which confined their activity to consultation or supervisory services. In order to bid on public-works projects, foreign firms must be represented locally by someone fully empowered to act in their behalf and to give adequate guaranties of good faith.

Demand for Canadian Canned Fish MOUNTS

(Continued from p. 11)

Exports under this allocation are restricted to the following destinations: Latin American countries (including Central America and the Caribbean); non-British territories in Africa and Asia (including the Pacific Islands); and European countries, except those receiving relief supplies.

Exporters requiring assistance in finding new markets have been urged to communicate directly with the Canadian Government trade commissioners in the territories mentioned, or with the Export Division, Department of Trade and Commerce, Ottawa.

Export Permits

All distributors of canned fish must register with the Canned Fish Administration, Department of Fisheries. Applications for permit to export west-coast canned fish are submitted to the Canned Fish Allocation Office, Department of Fisheries, Vancouver, B. C.; for east-coast canned fish to the Canned Fish Allocation Officer, Department of Fisheries, Halifax. As previously stated, export permits are granted only to applicants having the canned fish *on hand*.

News by COMMODITIES

(Continued from p. 33)

timated 2,230 acres cultivated in Quebec, with a production of 2,453,000 pounds, compared with a planting of 2,400 acres and a production of 2,976,000 pounds in 1944.

Quebec's commercial crop of pipe-smoking tobaccos in 1945 totaled 2,746,500 pounds, grown on 2,775 acres. This represents a substantial increase over the commercial crop of 1944 which amounted to 1,990,800 pounds from 1,839 acres.

IMPORTS INTO EIRE

Eire's imports of unstemmed tobacco during the first 9 months of 1945 amounted to 8,396,729 pounds valued at £1,292,199, compared with 5,348,052 pounds, worth £766,505 during the like period in 1944.

News by COUNTRIES

(Continued from p. 21)

Ministry of Finance, published in the Gaceta Oficial of January 10, 1946, subjects the importation of butter into Venezuela to the requirement of a prior authorization issued by the National Supply Commission (Comisión Nacional de Abastecimiento). Violation of the provisions of this resolution will be subject to the penalty prescribed in article 10 of the Customs Tariff Law, that is, condemnation as contrabrand. This action was taken for the declared purpose of affording protection to the domestic product, which is said to be unable to compete successfully with imported butter.

New World Trade Leads

(Continued from p. 13)

The British firm states that it is equipped to turn out spinnings up to 7 feet in diameter, presswork, drop hammer work, aluminum-alloy fabrications, assemblies of all kinds, large or small. At the close of the war, this firm employed over 600 people on precision sheet-metal work for the Air Ministry, making fuel tanks for aircraft. A list of its principal products is available on loan from the Commercial Intelligence Branch, Office of International Trade. World Trade Directory Report in preparation.

England—The Stockport Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Demmings Works, Councillor Lane, Cheadle, Cheshire, wishes to enter into an arrangement with an American firm for manufacturing or assembling light and medium engineering parts for sale in England. During the war the firm produced parts on subcontract for aircraft, including cowlings, fuel tanks, exhaust manifolds, and woodwork. World Trade Directory Report in preparation.

England—Technaphot Ltd., Mile Lane, Quinton, Coventry, states that it is equipped for designing and manufacturing complete instruments and machinery up to about 30 hundredweight and wishes to offer its services to any American firm interested in manufacturing its products in England for European and Empire distribution. The firm claims to have plant and equipment for dealing with high-precision light engineering products and to have been engaged for the past 7 years in the production of optical and mathematical instruments and tools for the British Government and leading industrial concerns in England. World Trade Directory Report available.

England—The Visco Engineering Co., Ltd., Stafford Road, Croydon, wishes to contact American firms interested in the manufacture on a royalty or other basis, of American industrial and commercial electrical precipitation dust-collecting equipment. The British firm claims that it has carried out a very high percentage of the work involved during the war in equipping munition and other works with dust-collecting plants. World Trade Directory Report in preparation.

Scotland—Munro and Miller Ltd., Moorepark Tube Works, Ibrox, Glasgow, wishes to manufacture under license, in Scotland, tube fittings—bends, reducers, and branch pieces. The firm is immediately interested in the production of bends of from 2- to 12-inch bore. World Trade Directory Report available.

Railway equipment imported into Brazil in the first 7 months of 1945, most of which came from the United States, included 9,821 metric tons of railway cars and 6,156 tons of railway-car parts.

New Books and Reports

★The following publications, added to the Department's research facilities, through the courtesy of the authors and publishers, are listed as a service to businessmen. *Please note:* The Department has no copies of private publications for distribution and cannot be responsible for their content. For private publications, write direct to the publishing agency given in each case.

Articles of interest to businessmen, appearing in the Department of State Bulletin, February 3, 1946:

Copies of this publication which is issued weekly by the Department of State, may be obtained from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C., for the price of 10 cents each; subscription price, $3.50 per year. The February 3 issue contains these articles:

THE STATE OF THE UNION.
GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF UNITED NATIONS.
FREEDOM OF THE PRESS—WORLD-WIDE.
WHEAT AND COAL FOR LIBERATED AREAS. By James A. Stillwell.
PHILIPPINE FOREIGN AFFAIRS TRAINING PROGRAM. By Edward W. Mill.
INTERNATIONAL CONTROL OF ATOMIC ENERGY.
BRITISH-GREEK FINANCIAL AGREEMENT.
PROGRAM FOR SUPPLYING RAW MATERIALS TO GERMANY AND JAPAN CLARIFIED.
LIMITATION OF THE PRODUCTION OF OPIUM: THE UNITED KINGDOM.
FOURTEENTH SESSION OF AERIAL LEGAL EXPERTS.
NORTH AMERICAN REGIONAL BROADCAST ENGINEERING CONFERENCE.
COORDINATION OF FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES.
UNITED STATES-GREEK NEGOTIATION ON EXPANSION OF PRODUCTION AND EMPLOYMENT.
RECONSIDERATION OF QUOTAS ON SILVER-FOX FURS.
SPECIAL INTERNATIONAL TEXTILE GROUP LEAVES FOR JAPAN.

Late AIRGRAMS

(Continued from p. 17)

truck tires are still in short supply, inasmuch as the third- and fourth-quarter quotas for 1945 from Brazil have not yet been received.

There were no important developments in public utilities. The summer tourist season has created further difficulties for the streetcar and bus companies in Montevideo, and an attempt has been made to alleviate the strain by using sightseeing and school busses with limited stops on determined routes. ANCAP, the Government petroleum monopoly, announced recently that it was contemplating the establishment of a "bottled" gas service for home-cooking purposes. It is not known how soon such a service could be instituted.

The Montevideo stock exchange reflected no important changes. There were slight increases in demand for industrial and national securities, especially the latter. Prices were firm, with a tendency to rise. Money remained plentiful. Although Government collections showed substantial increases over 1944, the year closed with a public debt of 629,100,000 pesos, an increase of 35,100,000 pesos. Collections throughout the country were reported satisfactory. The buying rate for the dollar remained unchanged in the "free" market at 1.78.

Export-Import Bank Activities

(Continued from p. 15)

The notes of the Republic of Ecuador to be issued to the Export-Import Bank under this new enlarged credit line mature in semiannual installments over a period of 12 years from the date of issue and carry interest at 4 percent.

Export-Import Bank Credit for Raw Cotton to China

STATEMENT BY THE BANK

Approval by the Board of Directors of the Export-Import Bank of a line of credit of $33,000,000 to assist in financing the export of raw cotton to China was announced January 17 by Wayne C. Taylor, President of the Bank. The credit is sufficient to provide for the shipment of from 275,000 to 300,000 bales of cotton. This line of credit will contain substantially the same provisions as the line established by the Bank last October for cotton credits to European countries, with one exception. Because of the differences in the time required for both ocean and internal Chinese transportation, the new Chinese credit will require repayment 24 months after the arrival of cotton abroad, instead of 15 months as in the European credit. It is expected that the Chinese requirements will be principally for short-staple cotton.

This line of credit for China, as has also been the case for other reconstruction credits approved by the Bank, is designed to assist in speeding reconversion to a peacetime basis. Textile manufacturing facilities and labor are available in China. Today the world as a whole is desperately short of manufactured cotton textiles, principally as the result of severe production losses in the United Kingdom, Europe, Japan, and China. These areas supplied a large proportion of the cloth upon which other large non-cloth-producing countries have been dependent.

Adequate raw cotton is not available in China to permit the resumption of cotton-cloth manufacture on as large a scale as will now be permitted by these additional supplies of raw cotton. Recent estimates indicate that about 2,300,000 spindles in Shanghai and 1,000,000 spindles in North China are currently available for the production of cotton yarn. It is reported that, on January 1 of this year, not more than 1,000,000 spindles were in actual operation in Shanghai because of the lack of cotton. Under this credit, sufficient raw cotton can be obtained to run approximately 600,000 spindles for a year. The additional supply of cloth would approximate 500,000,000 yards. This is equivalent to about one-seventh of China's estimated prewar annual rate of total production, both hand-woven and machine-made.

Reestablishment of the manufacture of cotton cloth by the Chinese will tend to reduce the present call on the United States through UNRRA for relief shipments of woven cloth to China. Reemployment of Chinese textile workers will still further reduce other relief needs. Increasing Chinese employment will aid in the reconstruction of the Chinese domestic economy, on which a sound future Chinese foreign trade with the United States and other nations depends.

The operation and terms of the credit will provide for moving the cotton exported through private trade channels in the United States, as in the case of the European cotton credits. The use of the credit will be open to all qualified cotton-exporting firms in the United States through any United States banks which may be interested, wherever located.

Loans under this line of credit will be guaranteed both by approved Chinese banks and by the Chinese Government.

Contributors' Column

Henry Chalmers ("Major Trade-Policy Trends During 1945").—Educated in the public schools of Brooklyn, N. Y., Cornell University (A. B. and A. M.), and Brookings Graduate School of Economics (Ph. D.). Prior to joining the Department of Commerce in September 1921, he was assistant to the export manager of the Bear Mill Manufacturing Co., New York, converters of cotton and silk goods, and special expert with the U. S. Tariff Commission, engaged in industrial and commercial investigation here and abroad, specializing in textiles. Served as Chief of the Division of Foreign Tariffs, Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, from 1921 up to its dissolution in the reorganization of 1941. Now serving as Consultant on Commercial Policy. On special mission to Japan for investigation of industrial and competitive conditions, 1919–20. Made survey of tariff and commercial-policy situation in principal countries of Europe, 1923. Has served on various official U. S. delegations to international conferences. Author of numerous governmental publications, and frequent contributor to economic and commercial periodicals, American and foreign.

L. M. Herman ("Next Phase in the Urals: New Plans and Potentials").—See FOREIGN COMMERCE WEEKLY of October 6, 1945.

U. S. Trade With U.S.S.R. January-September 1945

(Continued from p. 8)

Trade of United States With U.S.S.R., January–September 1945, by Principal Commodities—Continued

Item	Quantities	Thousand dollars
Domestic exports—Continued.		
Steel-mill manufactures—Continued.		
Railway car wheels, tire, axles 1,000 pounds	10,267	593
Iron and steel advanced manufactures		8,097
Tools		5,805
Metal drums and containers for oil, gas, and other liquids 1,000 pounds	2,119	325
Ferro-alloys do	2,057	1,911
Ferromolybdenum do	1,300	769
Ferrotungsten do	728	1,139
Aluminum and manufactures		1,223
Aluminum ingots, slabs, other forms 1,000 pounds	953	138
Aluminum plates, sheets, bars, etc do	2,751	916
Aluminum tubes, moldings, castings do	136	99
Copper and manufactures		20,175
Refined cathodes, billets, ingots 1,000 pounds		41
Copper pipes and tubes do	2,119	2,462
Copper plates and sheets do	1,057	231
Copper wire, bare do	11,181	13,209
Insulated copper wire and cable do	76,999	15,469
Brass and bronze manufactures		12,603
Bars and rods 1,000 pounds	13,471	2,407
Brass and bronze plates and sheets do	48,263	8,685
Brass and bronze wire do	308	68
Fabrications for munitions do	452	82
Lead and manufactures		101
Nickel		1,099
Ingots, bars, grains, rods, etc 1,000 pounds	1,237	518
Nickel-chrome electric resistance wire do	520	677
Molybdenum ore and concentrate (content) do	1,675	1,127
Tungsten metal, wire, shapes, and alloys do	68	985
Magnesium metal in primary form do	560	116
Electrical machinery and apparatus		87,345
Batteries		2,867
Generators number	415	13,472
Accessories and parts for generators		1,939
Welding sets, motor-generator type number	1,129	1,228
Generating sets, Diesel-powered do	1,766	16,619
Transforming or converting apparatus do	4,321	3,970
Transmission and distribution apparatus		3,108
Motors, starters and controllers		6,375
Searchlights number	149	888
Industrial heating devices		2,966
Radio apparatus		22,094
Telegraph apparatus and parts		1,898
Telephone instruments number	57,521	2,589
Telephone equipment and parts		2,947
Steam locomotives number	729	67,587
Steam specialties and parts		6,229
Internal combustion engines		24,114
Locomotives number	59	5,965
Diesel and semi-Diesel, marine do	1,294	10,932
Stationary and portable, over 200 horsepower, Diesel and semi-Diesel number	43	1,354
Engine parts and accessories		4,349
Construction and conveying machinery		24,523
Construction equipment and parts		9,459
Conveying equipment and parts		15,064
Graders number	276	2,644
Cranes do	437	12,667
Excavators, including power shovels do	69	2,030
Mining, well and pumping machinery		14,288
Mining and quarrying machinery		7,162
Well and refining machinery		2,728
Pumping equipment		4,398
Metal-working machinery		63,109
Lathes number	820	6,605
Thread-cutting and automatic screw machines do	93	334
Milling machines do	576	4,143
Grinding machines and parts		7,009
Planers number	133	4,592
Parts and accessories for machine tools		4,747
Stamping, punching, etc., machinery		2,604
Forging machines and parts		5,952
Rolling-mill machinery and parts		8,541
Ball-bearings and parts except balls		3,049
Stationary air-compressors number	253	1,182
Agricultural machinery		21,373
Tractors and parts		21,371
Automobiles, parts and accessories		266,398
Motor trucks, busses, and chassis number	82,667	204,145
Parts for assembly		16,302
Automobile parts for replacement		43,450
Accessories, except horns		206,000
Motor truck and bus engines number	3,396	1,908
Motorcycles do	5,572	2,560
Motorcycle parts and accessories		1,088
Internal-combustion marine engines (outboard) number	669	2,759
Freight cars, over 10 tons capacity do	2,442	8,428
Railway-car parts, except axles		50
Railway signals, attachments and parts		1,462
Merchant vessels number	31	15,990
Machines and vehicles, military group		354,302
Coal-tar products		4,246
Toluene 1,000 pounds	19,782	1,245
Phenol (carbolic acid) do	11,291	1,394

Item	Quantities	Thousand dollars
Domestic exports—Continued.		
Coal-tar products—Continued.		
Dibutyl and diethyl phthallate 1,000 pounds	1,472	344
Coal-tar dyes, stains, etc do	434	509
Medicinal and pharmaceutical preparations		12,140
Medicinal chemicals for prescription use		1,392
Vitamins and vitasterols 1,000 pounds	1,140	8,844
Tablets, pills, capsules, etc		1,422
Chemical specialties		2,578
Cellulose acetate, plastic film support 1,000 pounds	96	106
Ethyl fluid 1,000 gallons	165	594
Reagents, chemicals for laboratory use		123
Industrial chemicals		34,566
Alcohols		27,238
Methanol 1,000 gallons	1,629	429
Ethylene, glycol 1,000 pounds	3,174	344
Butyl alcohol do	4,034	869
Butyl acetate do	3,798	733
Glycerine do	4,795	1,001
Acetone do	6,293	537
Organic chemicals do	12,326	3,262
Bromine, bromides, and bromates do	347	84
Sodium hydroxide (caustic soda) do	40,032	910
Pigments, paints, and varnishes		342
Chemicals, military group		9,836
Soap and toilet preparations 1,000 pounds		230
Laundry soap do	2,471	222
Photographic and projection goods		1,493
Scientific and professional instruments		5,540
Sterilizers number	2,315	343
Surgical and medical instruments		902
Books, maps		299
Fire-fighting equipment except automotive fire engines		58
All commodities exported for relief or charity		16,021
Miscellaneous, military group		26,639
Re-exports of foreign merchandise, total		3,217
Sunflowerseed oil 1,000 pounds	11,686	1,910
Tea do	297	304
Coffee, green do	6,599	942
Automobile casings, truck and bus number	1,500	47
Automobile inner tubes do	1,500	5
General imports,[1] total		49,040
Animal products, edible		686
Sausage casings 1,000 pounds	163	298
Caviar do	95	398
Animal products, inedible		28,797
Goat and kid skins pieces	226,473	140
Furs and manufactures		27,037
Furs, undressed		26,144
Furs, dressed		48
Fur manufactures		830
Bristles 1,000 pounds	418	1,563
Feathers, crude do	34	55
Vegetable food products		2
Vegetable products, inedible		3,088
Drugs, herbs, leaves, roots 1,000 pounds	2,140	214
Licorice root do	2,020	164
Drugs, crude, vegetable do	100	30
Tobacco, cigarette leaf do	2,434	2,421
Essential or distilled oils		419
Pine-needle oil 1,000 pounds	64	142
Textile fibers and manufactures		2,753
Raw cotton 1,000 pounds	51	15
Cotton linters do	18	1
Cotton waste do	838	56
Flax tow long tons	629	136
Wools, unmanufactured (clean content) 1,000 pounds	1,242	1,354
Camel hair (greasy, clean content) do	966	1,013
Cashmere hair (clean content) do	271	339
Oriental and other hand-loomed rugs square feet	7,035	13
Animal hair, unmanufactured 1,000 pounds	2,424	730
Horse hair, mane and tail do	922	423
Silk cocoon do	699	306
Wood and paper		621
Sawmill products M board feet	693	25
Spruce do	166	6
Paper base stock		565
Spruce, peeled cords	20,708	405
Nonmetallic minerals		704
Asbestos, unmanufactured long tons	2,344	174
Magnesite (dead burned) 1,000 pounds	9,453	161
Diamonds, cut but unset carats	2,093	313
Emeralds, cut but not set do	2,689	49
Metals and manufactures		12,011
Manganese ore (manganese content) 1,000 pounds	97,169	3,416
Chrome ore (chrome content) long tons	69,350	6,523
Platinum, ingots, bars, sheets or plates troy ounces	49,278	1,848
Palladium do	9,966	222
Machinery and vehicles		(2)
Chemicals and related products		224
Apatite, phosphate crude short tons	14,340	102
Chloride, crude (muriate of potash) do	3,501	118
Miscellaneous		143
Books, maps, printed matter		125
Stamps and stamped envelopes		117

[1] "General imports" differ from "Imports for consumption" to the extent that the "withdrawals for consumption from warehouse" included in the latter were more or less than the "entries for bonded customs warehouse" which are included in general imports.

[2] Less than one-half unit.

Source: Foreign Trade Division, Bureau of the Census.

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1946